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*For Six Weeks 1690*  
OBSERVATIONS  
ON THE  
Present State  
OF THE  
Court and Country  
OF  
FRANCE.

*In the SAVOY*

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THE  
EPISTLE  
TO THE  
READER.

These Observations had not come abroad at this time, but that the Creatures of *France* have made it their Business in all the Considerable Courts and Cities of *Europe*, to Magnify the Opulence of that Kingdom, the happy State of its Subjects,

*To the Reader.*

the *Grandeur* and *Puissance* of its *Monarch*, and the *Excellency* of that kind of *Politie* and *Government* their *stupendious Master* hath set up. To obviate such *Parasitical Encomiums*, this small Piece is made publick, wherein may be seen the *Unsoundness* of those *Maxims*, by which the more than *Inhumane Jesuits* have led that *Ambitious Tyrant*; and would Influence other *Crowned Heads*, if their Interest could *Compass* it. The Fate of the late *King of Great Brittain* must be attributed to their *Councils*; and, it may be, a little time will

To the Reader.

will make it apparent, That the Cadence of France, and the Devastations in Hungary, spring from the same pernicious Root: And indeed what other Result can be expected, when a Prince shall devour his Own Subjects, to Agrandize his Power, and Violate his Leagues with his Neighbours, Ravage and Burn their Confines, under pretence of maintaining the Peace of Europe? And yet have his Ministers Brass enough in their Complexions, to insist upon such Toppicks in the Courts where they have admittance: And their Accessaries

To the Reader.

of the *Jacobite* and *De facto*-  
Party, chime to the same Tune  
Exactly : You may know  
them by their *Uneasiness* when  
any of our *Victorious King's*  
*Successes*, or those of the  
*Brave Confederates*, are men-  
tioned ; with what diminutive  
Reflections they shall be  
thrusting into any such dis-  
course ; and on the Contrary  
how mightily the *Courage* and  
*Magnanimity* of *Lewis* must  
be *Exalted* ; His very *Retraits*  
must be published for *Victories*,  
and he must be accounted  
*Brave*, when justly *Punished*  
and *Beaten*. This little piece  
presents you with a Scheme of  
the



*To the Reader.*

the present Condition of the Kingdom and People of *France*, in what prospect they stand of that utter Desolation which must attend all the Adherents to Bigottisme and Absolute Power. What can be expected from the violent temper of that Monarch, but a Fate that never fails to attend Rash and Inconsiderate enterprises? Much more might have been added on the ensuing Heads, but the Volumn being too strait to contain it, it must be referred to another Impression; which it's probable may be the History of those ill Consequences herein

## To the Reader.

intimated. And I doubt not  
but the Sword of the *Confede-*  
*rates*, before it's sheathed,  
will oblige *Louis le Grand* to  
with he had taken other Mea-  
sures.

~~A Fate that never fails to at-~~  
~~tend Fals and Inconsiderate~~  
~~enterprizes; Much more might~~  
~~have been added on the en-~~  
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Six Weeks  
OBSERVATION  
Of the  
Court and Country  
O F  
FRANCE.

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C H A P. I.

*Of the Poverty of that Kingdom.*

**T**HE desire of Novelty is  
so Natural to most that  
are confined in Prisons  
of Flesh and Blood, that  
you might as well go about to  
stop the rapid Floods of *Nilus*, or  
B to

to hinder the *stragling Thoughts* of a *Young Nun* at *Prayers*, as give checque to their *Rambling Humour*, or circumscribe them within the *Confines* of their own *Native Country*. It was an Itch of this kind that urged me to take a *Toure* into *France*, to see what *Proportion* there was between the *Representations* that *Noisie Strumpet Fame* had made concerning that so-much-talk'd-of *Country*, and the *Reality*, as demonstrated by *Matter of Fact*. Either such a *Curiosity*, or somewhat else, made me cross the *Channel*, and visit the fatal *Sands* of *Calais*, where the last *Sand* of many a *Bully's* *Glass* hath run out, and a *French Pass* hath *past* their *Souls* into another *World*.

The *Justs* and *Tournaments* of *Old* have not been more famous for *Exerting Youthful Vigour*, and



a *Profusion* of *Enamoured Blood* ; nor the *Celebrated Fields* where the *Olympick Games* were kept, never reek'd with more *Exasperated Gore* , when the *Fierce Combatants* lay weltring under the *Wheels* of each others *Chariot* : But the *Sands* of *Calais* have been oftner stained with the *Purple Jelly* of an *Irritated Monsieur*, or a distrustful *Gallant*. Hardly can a *Monsieur* be Chowc'd of a *Snuff-Box* , or have his *Emblematick Mushrooms* pick'd out of his *Pocket*, which was to have been *Grilled*, or *Ragusted* for *Supper*, but out-comes the *Tilter*, and away to the *Sands*, where the *Fortune de Guerre* must decide the *Title*.

As for our *Cullies* on this side, their falling out is often about *Matters* more *frivolous*, and *contemptible* : For if *Miss* does but *look askew* , or cast a *Glance* on

another *Gallant* ; away goes Foot-boy with the *Challenge*, the *Tacht* is presently hired for *Calais*, and there is Fopp *decently* run through the *Lungs* ; and there's an End of a *painted, Effenced, all-to-be-Sprucified Thing*, that has *Treated* half the *Jilts* in Town , made two or three *Broils* at *Bartholomew Fair*, and afterwards went to expire on the Shore of that Country whose *Modes* he *Ape'd*, and whose *Follies* he was so *fond* of.

But my Business here being an Affair of another kind than that of the *Ponyard*, I will proceed to give you an Account of what further occurred worth Observation, and go on from the Sands to the Town.

This *Calais* then, is the nearest passage from *England* to *France* ; and stands so directly against *Dover*, and at so little distance, that  
as

as from thence may easily be discerned the *Clefts* and *Houses* on this side, so from hence may be seen the *Castle* and *Rocks* on the *British Shore*, under whose *Protection*, no longer since than *Queen Mary*, this *then* famous, and flourishing *Town*, was : And the loss of this place so much resented that *Princess*, that, as it is recorded of her, she said, *If she were opened when dead, Calais might be found in her Heart.*

However, it hath been the *Opinion* of some, that the *Gallick*, and *Kentish Shores* made one entire *Continent* in ancient time; for which they alledge the resemblance of the *Clefts* on either side, and quote that of the *Poet*,

*Et pænitus toto divisus Orbe Britannos.*

Yet, by their Favour, there is so vast Disproportion in the *Figure*, and *Disposition* of the *Natives* on *that* side, and *this*, as may for ever silence any Notion of that kind. The Rattling of the *Wooden Shoes* about the *Streets* ; the mean, and dejected Aspect of the Inhabitants ; their contemptible, and sordid way of Living in their Houses, where you shall have 15 or 16 sitting round a Dish of *Broath*, made on some coarse Fish, or a small piece of *Ordinary Beef*, boyled all to Rags : This, as I was saying, makes so vast a Difference, as from a Person of Candor deserves Commiseration ; and doubtless makes the Inhabitants sadly regret their Fate, in being separated from the easie and gentle sway of the English Crown.

The Houses make an indifferent shew at some distance, being much  
of



of an heighth, and on each of them a small Brick Turret like a Stack of Chimnies, or like so many tops of Pidgeon Houses, only the Inhabitants here are neither so *innocent*, nor *useful*; for by the Example of their great *Task Master*, they are taught to have more of the *Vulture* than the *Dove*: And yet in respect of the *inside*, they bear a great Resemblance, being alike filled with Dung and Nastiness. So that the *Habitations*, and those that live in them, duly considered, are much alike; having the *Low-Rooms* Nauceous, the *Middle* very ordinary, but the *Garrets* wholly *unfurnished*; so that no Judgment can be made of *either* by the outward appearance, no more than of the Apples of *Sodom*, which present very charming to the Eye, but are venomous, and rotten within.

The *Streets* are *loathsom*, though often *washt* ; but it is with that which makes them so ; for the *Women* make no *Knobs* of opening their *Sluces* in your way ; so that sometimes you need *Stilts* to carry you through the *Stream*.

From hence Travelling to *Paris*, there was opportunity enough to observe what a prodigious state of *Poverty* the *Ambition*, and *Ab-soluteness* of a *Tyrant* can in a few Years reduce an *Opulent*, and *Fertile* Country to ; there were visible all the Marks, and Signs of a *Growing Misfortune*, all the *Dis-mal* Indications of an *Overwhelm-ing Calamity*. The *Fields* were *Uncultivated*, the *Villages Unpeopled*, the *Houses Dropping* to decay, the *Inhabitants* that remained peep'd out at *Doors* and *Crevices*, as if the *King's Booted Apostles* had been coming to plant the *Faith* amongst

amongst them, by *Plundering* the little that was left, and leaving the Marks of their *Prowess* on their *Affaulted Wives* and *Daughters*. Nothing presented but a general *Horror* and *Surprize*; an Universal Disorder and Uneasiness was to be seen in every Face; that the Country look'd no more like what it was represented to be in *Lewis* the *Thirteenth's* time, than an *Apple* is like an *Oyster*.

For my share, I could not but pity the *Fate* of a Race of *Men*, that should so stupidly permit themselves to be trained up under the Doctrine of *Passive Obedience*, till they had *nothing* left they could call their *Own*. *Themselves* were but so many *Drudges*, to beget and breed up *Sons* for the *Army*, *Daughters* for the *Souldiers*; to gather a few *Hogs* and *Fowl*, for the Entertainment of the King's Troops; a

*Pipkin*, a *Gridiron*, and *Frying-Pan*, a poor *Coverled* on a *Bed* of *Straw* to pay the *Salt Gabels*, when there is no *Meat* to eat it withal; and that their very *Souls* too must be left to the *Discretion* of a parcel of *Canibal Dragoons*, or more *Inhumane Priests*! Is this the *State* of such as are conducted by *Ecclesiastical Polity*, and doth the *Unlimited Sway* they give the *Prince* terminate in this at last? And yet how equal is it, *That those who so tamely part with their Reason*, should have no *Claim to that which is called Property*?

I was diverted out of this severe *Contemplation* by four or five *Boars*, who were got in a *Cluster* on the *Road*, I suppose in *Consult* whether they had not best remove themselves into *Ireland*, when their *Great Mogul* had *Conquer'd* it, where they might meet with some *Beef* and *Mutton* to eat.

with



with their *Salt*; and be further as they thought, removed from the daily *Pillagings* of *Fuifiliers*, and *Pike-Men*. I must confess, I never thought the Name of *Boars* more aptly bestowed; for they look'd as if they had been *Roosting* in the Earth, their *Faces* and *Habits* were all of a Colour, which was the same the *Dirt* of the Country bestowed on them, they seemed never to have been befriended with any other. Being true *French-Men*, they opened upon us all at once, and enquired as briskly, *What News* ~~What~~ if they had been in a *Coffee-Shop* in *London*.

We replied, (for it is to be imagined I was not without Company) That at the last place we came from, it was all the Discourse that the Letters from *Paris* affirmed, That the *Prince of Orange* was  
Dead,

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Dead,

*Dead*, and that *Monsieur Lausun* was named *Vice-Roy* of *Ireland*. This *Success*, which they apprehended their *Tyrant* had gained, seemed to please the poor *Animals*, and they appeared, amidst their *Misfortunes*, to be eased at the supposed Advantage of *Him* that was the *Cause* of them: Such a *Stupidity* doth a *Habitual State* of *slavery* bring poor *Wretches* to. It cannot be supposed this seeming Satisfaction proceeded from any *Love* to their *Prince*, but from a *Contrary Passion*, which makes them *Brethren* the *Indians* *Worship the Devil*.

Nor doth this base *pravity* of *Mind* stay behind the *Natives* when they leave the *French Territories*; but *Travails* with them into other *Regions*, and hath accompanied some, even of their *Refugies*, to *London*, where they cannot



cannot forbear to Aggrandize the *Fantastick Triumphs* of their *Natural Sultan*, and express themselves in favour of his *Enterprizes*, according to that of the Poet,

*Cælum non Animum mutant qui  
trans Mare currunt.*

We could not but be astonish-  
ed at the profound Simplicity of  
those miserable Subjects, who  
scarce deserved pity; but, before  
we parted, resolved to look a lit-  
tle further into their Temper, and  
therefore asked, Whether they  
had rather go into *Ireland*, or  
continue in their own Country?  
They replied, *Ireland*, if there  
were no Souldiers there. By  
which we perceived their Animo-  
sity was more against the *Army*,  
than *Him* that Empowered them  
to commit all their Rapines and  
De-

Depredations : Not unlike the Dog that catcheth at the Stone, and considereth not the Hand from whence it came.

Thus, being thoroughly satisfied of the *Tallent* of these Sons of Ignorance, we proceeded on our way for *Paris*. We had hardly passed a Bow-shot from them, when one of our Company, looking back, perceived the *Boars* had their Company augmented by the accession of near twice their Number, who had lain concealed in the Ditches, or Dunghils adjacent ; they appeared to be full of Action, Shrugging, and Grimacing at one another, they seemed as if they had a mind to *Dance*, such a Transport were they in upon their *Imaginary Successes* ; so forgetful of their *Infelicities*, as if *Inconsideration* and *Levity* were the principal *Ingredients* in their Com-

Composition ; and there is no doubt but they concluded the Evening with *Fireworks*, and *Illuminations* on that Important Occasion.

During the rest of our Journey, we were not without continual objects that brought such Reflections to our thoughts as must be the natural result of seeing so noble a Country, abounding with all the *fertillity* and *fragrancy* of *Arcadia*, over run with *Bryars* and *Weeds*, like the Ground that is nigh unto *Cursing* : Houses of *Nobles* and *Gentlemen*, left desolate ; their *Inhabitants* either Compelled to ride in the King's *Troops*, or to serve among the *Infantry*, and to take their *sustenance* where they can *pillage* it ; the *wretched Residue* that remain at home so stript, that they are forced to pick the *Fields* for *Salads*.  
Amongst

Amongst the rest were visible the Ruines of some *considerable Houses*, belonging to the better quallify'd *Refugies*; these had suffered such *demolishment* and *di-lapidation*, as if they had been under the *Revengefull Attacks* of the *Incensed Apprentices* on an *Easter-Tuesday*; Nay, those *Nau-tious Houses* of *Pollution* have found more *Mercy* from their *Irritated Gallants*, than the *honest dwellings* of an *Innocent* and *Industrious People*, or their *persons* either, could meet with at the hands of the *Inhumane Dragoons*.

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## C H A P. II.

*Containing many Reasons why the French Nation must be Poor, from their Church.*

**I**T was my good Fortune on the Road to meet with a person, who had the figure of one well *Descended*, and of answerable *Acquirements*; after we had been a little time together, I found my self not at all deceived; for he having heard with what compassion we were observing that despoiled Country, he entertain'd us with the following account;

**G**entlemen, said he, I perceive your great Humanity, in the Condolance you make of the deplorable state you find this Country in, and because, withall,

withall, I understand you to be Strangers; I shall give you the best account I can of the *Reasons* why this great *Calamity* is come upon *France*, and the *Methods* by which it hath been brought to pass: and perhaps you have not met with a person the most *Incompetent* to satisfy your *Curiosity* in these affairs, because what I shall *relate* to you is the effect of many Years *Observation* and *Experience*. It is Impossible for us to think aright of the *Calamities* of this *Naturally Rich*, and *Uberous Country*, unless at the same time we consider the *Temper* and *Constitution*, of the several *Degrees* of people that make up this *Great* and *Ruinous Body*: and these may be distinguished into

The Church, or Ecclesiasticks.  
The Nobles and Gentry.

The

The Tax-Gatherers, and Court  
Officers.

The Army in all its parts.

The Peasants, or Villains, and  
Lastly the Court, separately  
considered.

The *Church of France* comprehends all *Orders* and degrees of persons, whose dependance is upon any part of the Revenue arising from any spiritual *Donation*, or *Office* whatsoever. The *Number* of these is so *Vast* and *Immense*, that they are enough to be the *Seminaries* of *Uncharitableness*, and *Licentiousness* through the *Universe*: For as the *All-wise Founder* of the *Christian Religion* and *Doctrine*, at first *Commissionated* but *Twelve Apostles*, and forbid them any *Claim*, so much as to the *necessary supports of Life*. Our *Clergy* have by their matchless *Avarice* stripped

stripped the rest of *men* of their *Competencies*, and by the *squabbles* amongst the several *Orders* of their *Clergy*, have destroyed that *Peace* and *Mutual Charity*, which is the only *satisfaction* of *Humane Life*; and by their *Lewd* and *Impious Debaucheries*, have brought the *sober* and *honest profession* of *Virtue* in *Contempt*, amongst their *Inconsiderate Flocks* and *Followers*: nor can I at any time think of a *National Clergy*, without reflecting on that *Voice* which was said to be heard over all the *Empire*, that day when *Constantine the Great* endowed the *Church* with *Temporal Patrimonies* and *Profits*; and, as I take it, one *Cambden* a famous *Antiquary* of your *Country*, mentions the words that were uttered by that *Voice*,

*Hec dies Venenum Infunditur  
in Ecclesia.*

which



which I am confident every Age since hath been more and more sensible of: for instead of that *Humble* and *Compassionate* disposition which then recommended their *Doctrines* and *Functions*, they are now arrived to such a degree of *Ambition* and *Insolence*, that they jostle for *preheminnence* with *Princes*, and take the *upper hand* of *Nobles*; and well may their *Prelates* and *Abbots* aspire to this, when their *Pontificate* shall set himself *above what is called God*, which puts me in mind of a witty saying of one, *That the Mercies of God, and the Ambition of the Clergy, are Infinite.*

And so, as I began to say, are their Numbers too, for like the *Froggs* and *Caterpillars* of *Egypt*, they cover the Land. *Boterus* a famous Historian, gives an account, That there are

Twelve

Twelve Arch-Bishopricks.

One hundred and four Bishopricks.

Five hundred and forty Arch-Priories.

One thousand four hundred and fifty Abbies.

Twelve thousand three hundred and twenty Priories.

Five hundred sixty seven Nunneries.

One hundred and thirty thousand Parish Priests.

Seven hundred Covents of Fryers.

Two hundred fifty nine *Commendums* of the Knights of *Malta*.

Another Historian named the *Cabinet du Roy*, gives account, that no less then *Three Millions* of *People* live upon the *Church Revenues* of *France*; neither doth he

he stick to set down the *Number* of all sorts of *Religious* in each *Dioceſs*, as well as a *List* of their *Whores*, *Bauds*, *Baſtards*, and *Servants* of all *kinds*; and withal tells ye, That he may as well do that, as the *Magicians* in their account of their *Diabolick Monarchy* undertake to set down the *Names* and *Sirnames* of *Seventy Six Princes*, and *Seven Millions, four hundred and five thousand nine hundred twenty and ſix Devils*. To maintain this prodigious ſwarm of *Locuſts*, the ſame *Cabinet* tells us, that their *Revenues* are *fourſcore Millions of Crowns, per Annum*, which makes juſt *Twenty Millions Sterling*, beſides their *Baiſe Mani*, which he reckons as much more, and that over and above all this 400000000 of pounds. They have incredible *Reſerves* of *Proviſions*, which are annually laid

laid into their *Stores*, besides their *Rents*; and these are brought in by their *Farmers*, and *Tenants*, which he reckons thus,

Wheat	4500000	} Quarters.
Rye—	2300000	
Oats—	900000	
Barly—	500000	
Pease & Beans	860000	
Capons	160000	} Cunes.
Hens—	560000	
Partridge	50000	
Beeves—	12000	
Muttons	120000	
Wine—	120000	} Quintals.
Eggs—	7000000	
Butter	230000	
Cheese	500000	
Hogs—	136000	
Pigs—	340000	} Quintals Loads.
Tallow—	60000	
Hay—	600000	
Straw—	800000	
Wood—	2000000	
		Besides



Besides prodigious quantities of other necessities which are there reckon'd up, I may well say more than the whole *value* of the *Kingdom* can be supposed to amount to: For the general *survey* of *France* amounts but to 200 Millions of *Arpins*, or *Acres*, Yearly, and that Sum, and more this *Cabinet* computeth to the *Clergy*; and by that account there would *nothing* remain to the *other Estates*. And tho' this large *proportion* may rather favour of a *Natural Vanity*, and *Affectation*, peculiar to Our *Countrymen*; yet if the yearly *Incomes* of *France* amounted to twice as much, and it were all settled on those *Holy Men*, you should still have them, with the *barren Womb*, crying *Nunquam satis*, or with the *Daughter* of the *Horse-Leech*, Give, give.

C

But

But to compute more modestly with *Bodin* of *Almane*, to whom credit may be given, because he was *President* of *Accounts* in *Paris*, who affirms, that if the *Revenue* of *France* be divided into *Twelve* parts, the Church may very well be computed to engross *Seven*.

I have seen besides, continued he, a piece, Entituled, *Coment de l'Estat*, wherein is a particular of the *Vineyards*, *Meadows*, *Arable*, *Pasture*, *Heaths*, and *Woods*, which put together makes a prodigious *Income*, enough to make a *Miser* blush: But the *Clergy*, not satisfy'd with this, find other ways to *Fleere*, and *Impoverish* their *Laity*; for they have, besides all this great profusion of *Income*, their *Baïse mani*, as I said, which consist in their profits arising from *Churchings*, *Christnings*, *Marriages*, *Burials*, *Holy Bread*, *Indulgences*,  
*Vows*,

*Vows, Pilgrimages, Feasts, Processions, Prayers for Cattle, for Seasonable Weather, for Children, against all manner of Diseases, and Infinite such purposes; besides all which, there is hardly an Acre of ground but there is some Dirige or de profundis, some Libera me Domine, or some other Spiritual duty to reckon, for which the poor Bigotted Wretches must draw their purse strings, or else, the Woman shall conceive no more, the Child dye of the Convulsion, the Man go home without his Wife, the Friend be denied the Holy Turf, remain in Mortal Sin, and obtain no pardon; Nay his Piggs, Cattle, Chicken, shall die of the Murraine, or the Pip, and the Vineyard be scorched, the Fields yield no Corn, or the Devil run away with all the Man hath. This is the Terrible case of*

C 2

him



him that falls under the frowns of the Man of God : And this is the happiness that Nation must expect, where Ignorance, and Avarice, are the Qualification of the Ministry, and the Lalty are compelled to pay Obedience, and an *Implicite Faith* to such Oracles.

We acknowledged our selves much Obliged to this worth person, for the extraordinary Account he had given us of the *Clergy* and their *Revenue*, and could not but admire that so vast a Fund of Treasure should be settled to maintain a *Generation* of men, who in most of the Actions of their Lives, appear to be the *Reproach* not only of the *Sacred Order* they profess, but of the whole Race of Mankind; and withal to Congratulate the happy State of our own *Nation* of *England*, that were so wonderfully  
 saved



saved from those *Egyptian Graciles*, by whom we must of necessity have been devoured if the *Designs* of the *French King*, and those of the *late King of Great Britain* had taken effect; and we could not but conclude, that it were much better that the *Treasure* devoured by those *Cormorants* should be spent in a *War* to defend the *Nation* from their gross *Impositions*, then ever again to be *Enslaved* to their *Intollerable Yoke*.

The *Priests* in *France*, are the most profoundly *Ignorant* & *sordid Animals* in *Nature*; the *Brackmans* amongst the *Indians*, and the *Dervises* in *Turkey*, are *Virtuoso's* to them. They are in as much subjection to their *Prince*, as their *blind Votaries* are to *Them*, and are at his pleasure as liable to be stript of their *Plate*, *Treasure*, and

C 3

very

very *Covents*, as they are to Fleece the *Enslaved Layity* of their *Properties*. *Murther*, amongst them, is esteemed no *Mortal Sin*, but on the contrary *Meritorious*, if to promote the Interest of *Holy Church*; *Adulteries*, *Rapines*, *Symony*, and almost all manner of *Depravities* are winked at, or at least seldom reprov'd in their *Sermons*, or *Preachments*, lest in so doing the dirt should fall on their own *Cloaths*; and their wretched *Flocks* being led more by the *Vicious* Examples of their *Priests*, than inclined to follow those paths of *Virtue* they so seldom hear of; promiscuously wallow with their *Uncleane Shepherds*, in the most brutish *Impiety* and *Sensuality*. Their *Doctrines* are so *fullsome*, and *Ridiculous*, as are enough to *Nauseate* the *Pallate* of a *Moralist*, and savour  
more

more of the *Stage* than *Pulpit*. And for *Learning*, they are generally the most *Illiterate Coxcombs* in Nature, of which I will present you with a taste or two, and so conclude this Chapter.

It happened a discourse arising in Company where one of these *Rabins* was, a Question was put *how many Worlds* there were? To which, one presently replied *Ten*; at which the *Priest* answered, That could not be, for he had never understood of more than *Four*; and that was first the *Heavenly World*; Secondly the *Earthly World*; Thirdly the *Lower World*; and fourthly the *Cleansing World*, or *Purgatory*; but one present reply'd, he could prove by Scripture there were *Ten Worlds*, and quoted that Text, in the Latin Translation; about cleansing the Lepers: *An non. Decem sunt facti Mundi?*



*Mandi?* To which the Father Learnedly answered, That he had never read the Bible.

No whit Inferiour to this, were his acquirements, that told his Auditors, *The Moon was that hole in Heaven out of which the Angells fell, and when their black Legions endeavoured to Re-enter, St. Michael with his flaming Sword chased them away; and the brightness which then appeared was the Glory of Paradise, which shined thro' the hole; but when St. Michael withdrew, strait those sooty Spirits resorted again to the place, and that Obscured the Light, and sometimes Occasioned a total Eclipse.* If this be not admitted for wholesome Divinity, and profound Philosophy, then I know not what will. In the mean time, it must be acknowledged to be very Edifying. But he that will take the pains to  
look



look into their *Legends*, shall find them Crawl all over with such *Miraculous Nonsense*, as cannot but be very astonishing. Such like passages have made them so out of request amongst some of the more Intelligent, that they have not only brought their *Persons*, but their *Mysteries* in *Contempt*, which they have not forbore to Express even on their death Beds, as the following *Stories* will manifest.

A *Parisian* lying very sick, his *Ghostly Father*, with a vigilance no less than that of a *Crow* or *Raven* over a dying *Sheep*, came with his *Corpus Domini*, telling the *Infirm*, that he had brought his *Saviour* to comfort him in this his *Extremity*: To which the dying man replied; Father, I believe this to be the *Body* of my *Lord*, for he comes to me, as once

He did to Jerusalem, *C'est un Asne qui le porte, It is an Ass that brings him.*

Another Gentleman in like condition, having the *Host* brought him by a fat Lubber-like Fryar; Sir, quoth the Priest, I am come to offer you the Sacrifice of the Church, and to administer the Extreme-Uction, to secure your Soul in its passage into the other World; for when you are once anointed with this *Holy Oyl*, no Evil Spirit will have power to come near you; and you must believe that the *Host* I here tender to you, is the real *Flesh* and *Blond* of our Lord. The Infirm person, considering that it was *Fryday*, returned this answer; I am to Yield with you that the *Host* you bring me is *Flesh* and *Blond*, and therefore I dare not Receive it, under peril of Damnation,

nation, since *Holy Church* hath declared it *Unlawful* to eat *Flesh* on *Frydays*.

It is not to be forgotten, that their *Religious* men, as they will be called, are the most famous *Brokers* in *Europe*, and the *Bordello's* in *Venice* cannot sooner accommodate you with a *Feme Correspondent* than those *Wolves* in *Holy Orders*, and herein they shall drudge as *Naturally* as the greatest *Haradan* about the *Mal*; and have thereby acquired the reputation of the best *Procurers* in *France*. In fine, this is the *Church*, and these the *Pastors* that *Lewis the Great* is for converting the *World* to; it being *Morally* impossible to keep up *Slavery* in the *State*, where *Ignorance* and *Bigottry* are not the constitution of the *Church*; and that is a great reason why *Tyrants* have generally been fond of that *Religi-*

on, or rather why that Religion Naturally promotes Tyranny.

And there is no doubt, but, by this means, in a short time, that may be said of France, which the Ingenious Mr. Feltham says of the Low-Countreys on the like occasion: They are, says he, a Glass wherein Kings may see that tho' they claim a Sovereignty over Lives and Goods, yet when they Usurp upon God's part, and would be Kings over Conscience too, they are justly punish'd with the loss of their own Empire; for that Religion too fiercely Urged, is like a string over strained, which when it bursts sometimes whips the strainers Eyes out.



## CHAP. III.

*Of the Nobles, or Gentry.*

BY this time we were come to our *Hostel* at *Amiens*, where also we had the Company of that *Worthy Person* who gave us most of the foregoing *Relations*, and an *Assurance* that we might have his Company to *Paris*, for that his *Occasions* called him thither: This fell out as happily as could be wish'd for us, for that thereby we had an Opportunity put into our Hands to pay some Acknowledgments for his great Civilities to *Strangers*, and further to make our Inquiries into the State of the *Nobles, or Gentry*, whereof he was as capable of informing us as any Person we could

could hope to meet withal. But before we proceed to that, it will be necessary to tell you what sort of Entertainment we had at our *Inn* ; it being high time, after so long Travail , to think of somewhat for *Supper*.

The *Rooms* were not sprinkled with *Essences* , nor strow'd with *Lavander* ; and I am apt to think, were as much Strangers to *Dutch Cleanliness*, as the People are to *Dutch Liberty* : They seemed as if they had been taken up for a *Leager* ; every thing presented somewhat of the *Fury*, and *Fancy* of the *Dragoons* , in some the *Tables* , and *Benches* were hackt by their *Bayonets* , till there was hardly enough left to kindle a Fire ; the *Glass-Windows* had endured such *Batteries*, that the Lead remained like *Fishing-Nets* ; the *Walls* were inscribed with *Curses* and

and *Maledictions* of the *Hugonots*, and with *Emblems* of their *Loyalty* and *Devotion*; such as may be seen about many of the *Beg-houses* in *London*. Our Friend told us, that things were not used to appear in such *disorder*; but at the same time acknowledged his *Country-Men* were not of the Number of those that affected an *Over-Niceness*, but rather a *Negligence* agreeable to their *Climate*: In the mean time we could not but think there was a great deal of difference between *Niceness*, and *Nastiness*. The *Warming-Pan*, and *Brasses* were not here muffled up in *Point*, or *Cut-work*, after the manner of *Holland*, for there were no such things to be seen; but in stead of that, the *Kitchen* was adorned with *Frying-Pans*, *Spits* and *Gridirons*, that might be smelt farther than they could be seen; they

they were so *cased* in *Rust* and *Filth*, that it could not be discerned what they had been made of: The *Dresser*, or rather *Sink*, was loaded with *Garbage* of *Fish*, and *Fowl* that had lain *Montifying* there for some time: On one side lay a *Nasty Comb* among some *Onions*, and *Mushrooms*; on the other side *flashed* the *snuff* of a *Candle*, that like a *burning Island* was blazing in an *Ocean* of *Liquid Tallow* that floated round about it.

The *Cooks*, for all that were there appeared alike, had the *Locks* of their *Hair* so *stuck together*, and *rampant*, that I thought 'em descended from *Megara*, or *Aleto*; and was the more confirmed in that *Opinion*, when I saw their *Claws*, or *Tallons*, which had a *border sable* an *Inch* deep before you came to their *Fingers*. I was at a loss to comprehend this *Mode*,  
till



till I saw one of them clap his *Scoop* in a *Saucepan*, and then concluded they kept their *seasoning* at their *Fingers Ends*; for you could not but imagine there was enough under each *Nail* to favour a *Tub* of *Soop*. Five Hundred of these *Fellows* in a *Garison* would starve a *Leaguer*, for, like *Russian Bears*, they might live a *Winter* by sucking of their *Claws*.

Their *Aprons* and *Wastcoats* looked like *Leather*, or *Tarpanlin*; but had an *Odour* that cast farther, and was much stronger than that of *Tar*. These you cannot but acknowledge to be incomparable *Whets*, and doubt not but by this time you begin to feel an *Appetite* as well as my self; if not, that which follows cannot fail to get you a *Stomach*. Whilst we were ordering a *Dish* of *Broath*, some *Rabbits* and *Mushrooms* for our  
Supper,

Supper, a little *Hog*, that knew the way to Supper, when the People had neglected him, came into the *Kitchen*; and Nusking about, at length found a *Kettle* in a Corner, upon which clapping his *Fore-feet*, he endeavoured to reach at the Liquor therein contained, and straining a little beyond his reach, *fell in Head and Ears*: This put the People in some disorder, and there was a confounded *Jabber* for some time on that Occasion; but *Piggie* was took out, and held by the Fore-legs, whilst the *Nectar* was stroaked back into the *Kettle*. My Man told me, that the next Morning he saw the same Liquor set on the Fire, and a Quart or two of Water put into it, to make up what was lost, and that it was *Disht* about amongst them, with a *Fort bon Swoop*, *Monsieur*.

We

We retired to our Room, and called for some Wine to *wash* our Throats from the *Fumes* of the *Kitchen*, where we ordered our Servants to stay, and take care that none of the *strong Broath* out of the *Kettle* were added to *heighten* the *Gust* of *ours*. After some time, Supper was brought in; the first Dish presented a *Piece of Course Beef*, about two Pounds, *Stuft* or *Larded* with *Dabs* of *Bacon*, so greasie, that 'twas enough to turn the Stomach of a *Kitchinstuff-Woman*; there was likewise a *Piece* of *Pork* about the same bigness, and I admire how that escap'd *Larding* too: These swom in a large *Bason* of *Potage*, of the right *French Composition*, where you could not fail of *Cabbage-stumps*, *Leeks* and *Garlick*, whose *sowre Belches* might serve for *Refectiion* two or three days after. The *Rab-*  
*bits*,

*bits*, too, were *Larded* as thick as Hops, and the *Mushrooms Fricacee'd* with some *Onions*, and laid about them. I called for the chief *Cook*, and asked him the Reason why they made all their *Broaths* and *Sauces* of one taste? But I could receive no answer but *Fort bon Monsieur, Fort bon pour le Stomach*; but with my self could not but conclude it necessary to drown one *Stink* with another. I asked him where he had served his time? He replied, At *Paris*, with *Monsieur Ragust*. After this, a Dish of *Chestnuts* and *Apples*, which was the *wholsomest* part of the Entertainment, concluded the *Meal*; of which I will now say no more, nor of our *Lodging*, lest it for ever take your *Stomach* from *Breakfast*.

We had *Twenty Stories* of *Cookery* before we went to *Bed*; and the next *Morning* upon the  
Road,



Road, the foreſaid Gentleman gave us the promiſed Relation of the French Nobles, or Gentry, after this manner.

It hath been obſerved, (Monsieur) that Nobility either comes by Deſcent, when it can be proved that a Fee, and Knights Service thereto belonging, hath for a long Tract of time reſided in a Family; Or from Valour, when for ſome extraordinary piece of Service to the Publick, either by Land or Sea, a Brave Man is juſtly honoured with a Title, and Fortune to ſupport it. Or from Virtue, when by ſome ſagacious and timely Counſel, or by a Perſons well acquitting himſelf under a Publick Character, the State, or Nation is preſerved. But by what Fate Eccleſiaſticks came to be crouded into Temporal Honours and Offices, perhaps the great Louis will

*bits*, too, were *Larded* as thick as Hops, and the *Mushrooms Fricacee'd* with some *Onions*, and laid about them. I called for the chief *Cook*, and asked him the Reason why they made all their *Broaths* and *Sauces* of one taste? But I could receive no answer but *Fort bon Monsieur, Fort bon pour le Stomach*; but with my self could not but conclude it necessary to drown one *Stink* with another. I asked him where he had served his time? He replied, At *Paris*, with *Monsieur Ragust*. After this, a Dish of *Chestnuts* and *Apples*, which was the *wholsomest* part of the Entertainment, concluded the *Meal*; of which I will now say no more, *nor of our Lodging*, lest it for ever take your *Stomach* from *Breakfast*.

We had *Twenty Stories* of *Cookery* before we went to *Bed*; and the next *Morning* upon the *Road*,

Road, the 'foresaid' Gentleman gave us the promised Relation of the *French Nobles, or Gentry*, after this manner:

It hath been observed, (and he) that *Nobility* either comes by *Descent*, when it can be proved that a *Fee*, and *Knights' Service* thereto belonging, hath for a long *Tract* of time resided in a *Family*; Or from *Valour*, when for some extraordinary piece of *Service* to the *Publick*, either by *Land* or *Sea*, a *Brave Man* is justly honoured with a *Title*, and *Fortune* to support it. Or from *Virtue*, when by some sagacious and timely *Counsel*, or by a *Persons* well acquitting himself under a *Publick Character*, the *State*, or *Nation* is preserved. But by what *Fate Ecclesiasticks* came to be crouded into *Temporal Honours* and *Offices*, perhaps the great *Louis* will



will have time to consider, when he shall feel himself plunged in an *Inextricable perplexity* and *ruine* by *their* means. It's certain neither *King*, nor *Kingdom* hath ever ~~been~~ since they have been admitted to *Cabinet*; or *Council Board*. Their *business* should be of another *Nature* than that of this *World*, and there is little hope they should be seeking places in *Paradise* for themselves, or others, whilst with a more Ardent *Zeal* they are so fast glued to their parts in *Paris*.

But above all, he indeed is the most *Honourable* person, who, despising the *gayeties* of *Court Titles*, and *Pageantry*, out of an innate *Bravery* of *Soul*, and a *victorious Humility* of *mind*, sets himself to *serve* and *save* his *Country* without *partiality* to *Interests*, or *Factions*: He that is of a truly *Generous*, and  
publick



*publick Spirit, promoting the good of Mankind in general, without being restrained by sinister Piques and prejudices: He that Bountifully distributes of the Bounties of Fortune, to the support of Men Oppressed for their Integrity; and wastes not his Noble patrimony in Extravagant Gaming, or Ostentatious Equipages; but in a courteous hospitality, and Charitable distribution: And that, by all means, loaths a Niggardly, pernicious, avaricious way of Living to himself, like the Hog to his own Sty, and wallowing in his own filth; Heaping up Riches and Curses to himself, and posterity, till his Unlamented Herse privately lays his Carcass to consume amongst his Brother Earthworms, whilst his heaps of Extortion are dispersed by Extravagants or Strangers. This,*  
*this*

~~He~~ is the truly *Noble Man*, according to that of the Poet,

*Et Genus, & Proavos, & quæ  
non fecimus Ipsi  
Vix ea Nostra voco.*

Paraphrased thus;

Give me that *Honour* which  
from *Virtue* springs,  
And scorns to boast the *Line-  
age of Kings,*

Or *Ancient Shields* that were  
by *Grandfathers* worn;

He's truly *Noble* doth *himself*  
Adorn

With *Brave Atchievements*;

What's that *Honour* worth

Which more *Heroick Ancestors*  
brought forth?

If thy *like-Virtues* Claim thy  
*Father's Coat,*

'Tis truly *Honourable*, else a *Blot.*

And

And according to this there may be *Noble Peasants*, and *Peasantly Nobles*, whilst many times a person *Meanly descended* shall be *Enobled* with the Ornaments of *Vertue, Temperance, and Courage*; and another *derived*, perhaps, from *Royal Bloud*, shall have nothing to boast of but his *Pedigree*.

The highest degree of Honour in *France* is that of the *Pairrie*, or *Peerage*, in which Order formerly were not above *Seventeen*, sometimes *Twelve*, or *Seven*: They are so called, *quasi Pares*, or *Equalls*, because they sit in *Parliament*, and in *Council* with the *King*. They take place of all other *Nobles*, and the *Pairrie* of the *Bloud*, tho' they were latest called to that Dignity, have the Precedence amongst them. Six of these are of the *Clergy*, forsooth, which are,

D

Arch

Arch-Bishop and Duke of  
*Rhemes.*

Bishop and Duke of *Laon.*

Bishop and Duke of *Langres.*

Bishop and Compté of *Beauvois.*

Bishop and Compté of *Norn.*

Bishop and Compté of *Chalons.*

And to them is added the Arch-Bishop and Duke of *Paris.* To which he was preferred for his great *Service* to the *Church* and *State*, in finding out, that the *Romish Religion*, and that of the *Hugonets* are *One* and the very *same* in the *Bottom*, or *Fundamental point*; which doubtless is a *secret* that no body ever met with before him, and may pass for a *Revelation*, for which he deserves to be *Sainted*; as well as *Saint Catherine*, and *Saint Bridget*, for the discoveries they made; and then it may be said there was a  
*Saint*



*Saint* of the *Peerage* of *France*, as well as a *St. Lewis* among their *Kings*; But that being a stile too *Low* for the present *Monarch*, he intends to set up for a *Deity*, and then he can have no *Pairries*.

But it may be *Posterity* will have but *Odd thoughts* of the matter, when they shall reflect upon what his *Majesty* hath done in *Banishing*, *Gallying*, *Jayling*, and *Starving* those that are declared by his *Arch-Bishop* to be of the same *Religion* with himself, and his *Infallible Dragoons*.

There were likewise formerly six *Temporal Peers*, which were, the *Duke* of *Burgundy*, *Duke* of *Normandy*, *Duke* of *Guyenne*, *Compt* of *Tbolous*, *Compt* of *Champaigne*, *Compt* of *Flanders*. In the time of *Charles the Fifth*, there were added of the *Bloud*, the *Dukes* of *Bretaigne*, *Burbon*,  
D 2
Anjou,

*Anjou, Bevue, Orleans, and the Compts of Artois, Erenx, Alanson, and Estampes; and in the times of Charles the Ninth, and Henry the Third, there were the following Pairries erected, Nevers, Vandosme, Guise, Monpensier, Beaumont, Albert, Aumarle, Memoranche, Uzès, Pentheur, Mercœur, Joieus, Espernon, Rets, Monbafon, Vantadoure, with divers others; Many of which are decayed and extinct, and new Creatures raised for the merit of their Services, in helping to destroy the Northern Heresie, and setting up the Statutes of their mighty Master, such as Monsieur Colbert, Monsieur Lovois, and the Duke of Feuilade, with others. Not but that many of the Nobles have been Illustrious for their Integrity, and honourable Actions, and they have shined in their lofty spheres*  
*like*

like the *Stars of Heaven*, whose *Names* will ever be *precious* to *Posterity*.

He that compareth the present *State* of the *Nobles* of *France*, with that of the times of *Lewis* the *Twelfth*, and *Francis* the *Fifth*, will find so vast a disproportion as is almost incredible; one *Nobleman* hath, upon his own account been able to *raise*, and *maintain* an *Army*: Their *Wealth* was lookt upon as *formidable*; many *considerable Families* had their *Rise* from their *Service*; whereas now they are *Reduced* to *serve* the *King* in his *Wars*: and many persons of good *Competence* and *Fortune* have been *Ruined* by *Employments* under them.

And it is upon this *Account*, that one of their own *Historians* saith of them, that as they are the *smallest* in *Number*, so they

are *Poorest* in *Living* ; so that if they were divided into *Ten* parts, *Eight* of them would be found almost *Beggard* by *Sales*, *Mortgages*, and *Debts*. He imputeth their decay to *Five Reasons*, which he reckons thus ; 1. *Civil Wars*, 2. *Superfluous expence in Apparel*, 3. *Household-stuff*, 4. *Building*, 5. *Diet* and *Followers*. But there are other *Reasons* to be assigned, which will appear to be more applicable at this time, and they may be these :

First, the *General Poverty* to which the *Nation* is reduced by *Oppression* and *Tyranny*, so that they cannot *Rent*, *Stock*, nor *Cultivate* the *Lands* of the *Nobles*.

Secondly, the *Banishing* the *Protestants*, many of whose *Nobles*, and *Gentry*, were *Temperate* and *Sober* in their *Families*, *Regular* in their *Expences*, *Courteous* to their *Tenants*,  
and



and that *paid* their *debts* *honestly* to the *support* of the *Publick*. The *Mechanicks*, and *handy-crafts* were *Industrious*, *Thriftv*, and the main *supporters* of the *Trade* of *France*.

Thirdly, the *Equipages* which the *Nobles* and *Gentry* are *Compelled* to *Charge* themselves withall, to keep *Campaignes* and *Marches* with the *Army*.

Fourthly, That general want of *Learning* that is amongst our *Gentry*, they breeding their *Sons* in such *Academies* as the *Fathers* of the *Faculty*, I mean the *Infernal Jesuits* think fit; for these *Men*, or rather *Devils Incarnate*, being sensible that *Knowledge* and *Virtue* are absolute *Enemies* to their *Politicks* and *Morals*, have made it their business to render *Unfashionable* those *Studies* that most *accomplish* men for an *Inspection* into *their Own*, and the

Publick concerns ; and instead thereof have so brought it about, that *Dancing, Fencing, Riding the great Horse*, and a few common Notions in the *Mathematicks*, are to be accounted the only *Gentile*, and *Modish studies* for *Persons of Quality*. By this means they are *Trained up* in a way of *Inconsiderateness*, and *Incogitance* of their *Domestick Affairs*, and the *Care* of their *Estates*, and the *Church* having enough to *Live on*, it's no matter for the *rest of men* ; *Ignorance* and *Poverty* are a *portion* fit enough for *them*.

A Fifth Reason may be, That *Divine Curse* which never fails to follow *Tyrants* and *Persecutors*, in all their *Councils* and *Undertakings*, and it may be, that before the *Swords* of the *Confederates* are sheathed, *Lewis the Great* may find his *Extraordinary Politicks*  
and

and *Councils*, like those of *Achitophel*, turned into *Foolishness*: And that great *Bounce* and *Vapour* he hath made of grasping the *Universal Empire*, to *Terminate* in the *Dividing his Dominions* and *Territories*, amongst those that shall *Employ* their *Power* more for the good of *Mankind* than ever this *Mighty Boaster* hath done.

I have read, continued he, in the book called *Cabinet du Roy*, which I mentioned to you Yesterday, such a Character of the *Nobility* and *Gen'ry* of the several *Provinces* of *France*, as, perhaps, might not be so applicable at *that time* as it is *now*, and indeed very ill becomes the Lips of a Countryman at any time, but at the same I am compelled to say *Pudet hac Oprobria dice*; he saith,

The Nobles of *Bery* are *Leachers*.

The Nobles of *Tourraine* are *Thieves*.

The Nobles of *Guyenne* are *Coiners*.

The Nobles of *Tholouse* are *Traytors*.

The Nobles of *Narbonne* are *Covetous*.

The Nobles of *Province* are *Atheists*.

The Nobles of *Lyanous* are *Perfidious*.

The Nobles of *Rhemes* are *Superstitious*.

The Nobles of *Normandy* are *Insolent*.

He goes on to *Characterise* the other *Provinces* much after the same manner, but I have forgot the *Epithets* he gives them. But by this it may be perceived how the



the persons of the *first Quality* were at that time *sunk* in their *Fortunes* and *Reputations*, and it is as Evident that they have *advanced* in *neither* since, nor indeed is it possible they should, since it hath been the great business at *Court* to *discountenance* Men of *Principles* and *Honour*; and to *prefer* such whose *Moralls* have been *Corrupt* and *Debauched*, as being fitter *Tools* to carry on that *Prince's black designs*, to Enslave not only his *own Subjects*, but all *Europe*; so that the ready way to preferment with *Lewis the Fourteenth*, is to *Excell* in some *Exquisite Treachery*; as *Monsieur Catinat*, who for that Reason was *proscribed Venice*, the late *Bishop of Cologne*, who *Betrayed the Palatinate*; to whom may be added the *Cardinal Furstemberg*, the *Arch-Bishop of Paris*, the *Grand Prior*, with many others.

And

And it was such a *sort of Merit* that, not long since, recommended *Personsto Titles and Trust in your Country*, where, I have been told *Ganimedes* have been made *Dukes*, and *Strumpets* promoted to be *Dutchesses*; *Skipps* and *Varlets* had *Command in the Army*; and a pitiful *Irish Priest* was made a *Marquis* and *Ambassador*. However, as bad as our *Nobles* are, we have found means to *plant* them in the *Courts* of some *Neighbour Princes*, where they pass for good *Protestants*, or good *Subjects*; and serve the *Crown* for no *small purposes*; And it will be a hard matter if we lose the *Game*, when we know what *Cards* are in the *Opposite hand*.

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## C H A P. IV.

*Of Tax-Gatherers, Court-Officers,  
and the Army.*

**B**Y this time we came to a Village where divers Carts, loaden with *Lumber*, and a *miserable* parcel of *Honshold-stuff* of divers sorts, as if some Hospital had been to be removed ; and we imagined the People had been about to Transplant their Habitations : But at length, perceiving amongst them some *Files* of *Fuziliers*, we then concluded that it was some *Seizure* made for the *Kings Gabels*, or *Taxes* : And it was no otherwise. There were a parcel of old and decrepid People, and many *Children*, making a dreadful *Glamour* for the poor

Re-

Remainders of their Goods. Some of the *Men* had their *Sons*, and the *Women* their *Husbands* in the *Army*; those that brought them in their *Daily Bread*, were either *killed*, or daily *hazarding* their *Lives* in the *Kings Service*; and yet his *Tax-Gatherers* were come to strip these *to-be-pitied Wretches* of that little that remained. I heard divers of them say, they had nothing left to make a little *Broath* in for their *Children*; others, that they had not a *Bed* to lie on, nor a *Blanket* to cover them. This lamentable Object moved us to *Compassion*, and we could not but have some sensible Impressions of the great *Hardship* they laboured under: But the *Soldiers* and *Collectors*, being accustomed to *Actions* of *Cruelty*, laughed, and mock'd them. One of the *Officers* brought a *Fiddle* out



out of a certain House, and was followed by a lame Fellow, who used many *Intreaties*, and made sad *Remonstrances* of the pitiful Condition he should be in, if that were carried away; it was his whole Estate, all he had to live upon in the World. The other Wretches, though they saw almost all the Necessaries they had carrying away from them, yet besought the Officer more in behalf of the Fidler, than themselves; alledging, If that Instrument were taken away, they should then have nothing left to *divert*, and *solace* themselves amidst their Sorrows, but must at once be *stripped* of all the *Comfort* of their *Lives*. Perceiving the profound *stupidity* and *ignorance* of those poor People, we joyned our Intercessions in behalf of the *Minstrel*; whereupon the Officer, after some sage *Remarques*.

marques on the *Necessity* of paying  
 the *Kings Dues*, consented, on  
 Condition that they should give  
 him three or four *Dances* for his  
*favour*. The Fidler, over-joyed  
 with the *Re-possession* of his *Tene-*  
*ment*, tickled up his *Minstrel* to  
 some tune, and the *Monsieurs* and  
*Madams* Danc'd like so many *Pup-*  
*pets* acted by *Wyers*, or *Springs*;  
 Some, with their *Feet* *stuf* in  
*Wooden Boxes* with *Hay*, or  
*Straw*; others shak'd off their  
*Timber-Slippers*, and tript it on  
 their *Primitive Trotters*; the *Old*  
 and *Young*, *Matron* and *Infant*,  
 all moved as naturally to the  
*Notes* of the *Fiddle*, as *Virginal-*  
*Jecks* *Caper* to the *Motion* of your  
*Finger*. Sometimes they were in  
 a *Ring* like *Fairies*, then acting  
 the *Haye* like *Furies* in a *Play*: but  
 by the *balting* of some, *hopping*  
 and *shrugging* of others, I could  
 not

not but think of our play of the *Merry Beggars*, and in all my Life ne'er saw that *Dance* so *naturally Acted*; sometimes casting a Look at the *Carts*, you should see the *Hands wrung*, or the *Breast thump't*, and a *Sigh* or two uttered; but still the *Dance* went on, and all signs of sorrow were suppress'd, as if 't had been no less than *Treason* to *groan* in the hearing of their *Oppressors*.

I could no longer forbear acquainting the *French Gentleman* that was of our *Company*, that I thought this *Hardiness* of his *Country People* exceeded the *Apithee* that the *Stoicks* so much boasted of, and came the nearest imaginable to an *Insensibility*; and that I could not imagine it to be possible for *People* to be so absolutely forsaken of all *resentment* of *Misery*, as to be *Capering* to the  
Noise

Noise of a Fiddle, when their Sons were knocking on the Head in the Wars, and the Caldeans were carrying away their Goods, unless, at the same time, they were incapable of the Impressions of Poverty and Pain.

To which he reply'd, Sir, you see the Levity of our Constitution; you may as well perswade a Monky to forbear his Gamballs, as a Monsieur to be out of Action; and if Magg be sullen, and give you a Grimace, when under Correction, give him but a Feather to play with, and he is presently out of his Melancholy, and at his Postures, and Anticks again: So fares it with the People of my Country; If his Father be a dying, his House on Fire, give a French-Man but a Pipe, or a Rattle, you shall have him presently on the Corant, or Minnevie, shaking off the Ague of Consideration; nothing



nothing is so Terrible to a *Vassal* of the Great Lewis as *thinking*; their *Miseries* are so many and intolerable, that should they take time to *think* on them, all *Paris* would be one *Mad-house*, and a *Universal* distraction would appear over all the *Kingdom*.

So that this *privation* of *Sence* is not to be reconed amongst the *Infelicities* of this *Country*; and if they are *Pincht till they can feel no longer*, better so, then still *Endure the Torture*.

There is so much less *hope* of *Cure* for that, replied I; for that a *Stupefaction* that can't be awakened by *Couplings* and *Scarrifications* always *Terminates* in the *Extinction* of *Life*; and it is very *Unphysical* to suppose, the *Faculties* can *outlive* the *Sences*. And, perhaps, this may be one Reason why your *Country* have not yet *sought*

*sought* out for a *Cure*, because they have been *Pincht* till they can feel no longer: so that 'tis no wonder if *Holland* were sooner rid of the *Ague* Duke *D'Alva* cast her into, than *France* can hope to be of the *Dead Palsie* her great *Tyrant* hath brought upon her.

Sir, said the Gentleman, the *Subjects* of *France* are so habituated to a state of *Slavery*, that it is grown Natural to them, and they can no more want it, than a *Turk* can *Opium*; and the Proverb is verified in them, which says, *That which is one Man's poison, is anothers meat*. They are not unlike the *Wives* of *Sweden*, of whom 'tis said, They do not think their *Husbands* love them, unless sometimes they take them under *Correction*; or, like *Spaniels*, the poor *Curs* fawn on their *Masters* the more, for being beaten. This sort of *Flee-*  
cing

*cing* is as *Natural* to them, as 'tis  
 for *Sheep* to be *shorn* at *Whitsun-*  
*tide*: Twice a year their *Tax-*  
*gatherers* come to *plume* them, as  
 they do the *Geese* in the *Moors* ;  
 and thô, just whilst they are un-  
 der hand, they *Squeale*, and make  
 a *horrid noise*, yet the pain is soon  
 over, and they *forget* that they  
 were *stript*: You see how a *Fiddle*  
 takes off the thoughts of *Trouble*,  
 and the *submission* they pay to their  
*Tormentors* ; And by that time I  
 have given you an account of the  
 almost *infinite Number* of those  
*Caterpillars*, you will perceive,  
 that it is impossible for the *Sub-*  
*ject* to call any thing *his own*, when  
 he is not only to pay the *Charge*  
 of the *Court*, and *Army*, but of the  
 swarms of *Officers* that belong to  
 the *Revenue*, who are so many,  
 that the *Sallaries* and *Advantages*  
 they make on *Distrains*, eats up  
 above

above *Three* parts of *Four* of the *Imposition*; so that it was made appear in an *Assembly* at *Blois*, and that by a *President* of the Court of *Finances*, that out of *Six shillings* raised on the Subject, there hardly came *One Shilling* and *Six pence* to the *King's Coffers*.

The *Romans* foreseeing how very burthensome many Gatherers of Taxes must be to the Publick, ordered but *One* in a *Province*; but if the *Historians* of *France* may be Credited, they have not so few as a *Thousand* in one *Province*. The *Kings* of *France*, for the support of the *Grandeur* and *Expence* of the *Crown*, have in divers *Reigns* studied as many ways of Levying Money for their Purposes; principally, they have been reduced to *Eight Heads*, by which it may be discerned, what an *Immense Treasure* the Court hath



hath from time to time Collected  
on the People.

1. The *Domain*, which is the  
Settlement made on the *Crown*, and  
descends with it.

2. *Conquest*, and here the pre-  
sent Monarch hath out-done ma-  
ny of his Predecessors, by raising  
*Contributions* from the Subjects of  
his Neighbours; tho not in the  
Honourable way of *Arms*, but by  
*Trick* and *Stratagem*.

3. *Pension*, when the Confede-  
rates of the Prince have supplied  
him with *Monies*, on account of  
his *Assisting* them with his *Troops*,  
or otherwise.

4. *Traffique*, or *Merchandize*,  
and tho the Ancient Kings of *this*  
and Your Country scorned this  
way, as lesseneing the Dignity of  
a Crowned Head: Yet hath this  
*Prince*, and your late King so far  
descended

descended from their Grandure, as to Trade by way of Commerce, for the enlarging of their Banks. which is not unlike *Vespasian's Bonus Odori Luni ex re qualibet.*

5. His *Impost*, or *Customs* upon all Commodities Inward or Outward; but these, tho' at sometimes they have been very Considerable, when the *Manufactures* of *France* were encouraged, and our Wines taken off, are now foreduced, that they will hardly pay the Sallaries of the Officers belonging to them.

6. His *Finances* Levied upon Estate of the Subject in Nature of a *Subsidy*. And tho' this were at first yielded of *Favour*, by consent of Parliament: yet is it now raised by *force*, and as Hereditary. This is only extorted from the *Flat Pais*, or Countryman.

7. The *Pailon* was an Addition to this, pretended to prevent the  
Gens

*Gens d'Armes* from Free-quartering on the Villages, and tho' this be still paid, the Oppression ceaseth not.

8. The *Sold*, another Tax gathered upon all, except the Nobles, this was for payment of 50000 Foot, erected by *Lewis* the Eleventh, into Eight Legions of 6000 each; and from hence perhaps, cometh the name *Soldier*.

Besides these Exactions on the *Levy*, there are the *Decymes* or *Tenths*, which are Levy'd on the *Clergy*, and this seems to be the most *Equal Tax* that is raised by the *Crown*; for this at first comes to them without *Labour*, and is part of that *Bread* they pillage from others: and they will take care that it shall be barely a *Tenth* of their *Main* profits; whereas between *Them*, and the *Prince*,

E                      the

The poor *Subject* hath not *One* part of *Ten* of what he labours for, but is all his *Life* a drudge to support the *Arbitrariness* of the *Court*, and the *Avarice* of the *Clergy*. It is not the least worth *Observation*, that the present *Monarch*, not satisfy'd with the *Tenths* of the *Church*; hath likewise seized their *Altar-Plate* for the carrying on his *Wars*, and 'tis to be hoped that in short time he may seize their *Lands* and *Altars* too; It being but reasonable that those *Bourgeois*, who have for so many *Ages* kindled the *flame* of *War*, should themselves suffer under it's *Consequent Calamities*.

By those many *Exactions* on the poor *Subjects*, it is *Evident* what *Shifts* a *Tyrancick Power* is forced to make use of to support its *Irregular Greatness*, even to the *Consumption* of its own *Vitals*: for as  
the



the strength of any Government is in the Riches of the People, the Empoverishing of them, is the destroying that strength.

To every one of these Eight Branches of the Revenue there are no less than six Treasurers, as many Comptrolers, besides Clerks, Collectors, and under Officers in every District or Hundred, and in some Provinces, Twelve, Sixteen, and Twenty of those Elections, or Bailiwicks. There are Reckoned One and Twenty Provinces, which are,

Paris,	Agen,	Dyon,
Rouen,	Tholous,	Chalons,
Caen,	Montpellier,	Amiens,
Nants,	Aix,	Orleance,
Toures,	Grenoble,	Soissons,
Burges,	Lyon,	Limogres
Poictiers,	Ryon,	Maulin.

In each of these are accounted no less than a *Thousand Officers* belonging to the *Revenue*, and in many *Fifteen hundred*, besides accidental *Messengers*, and *subalterne Servants*, most of these have numerous *Families* to maintain, so that it is hard to Number how many *Vultures* live upon the prey of their Country. There is hardly the most *Inferior Collector's* place amongst all these, but is bought of the *King*, and that at the Extravagant rate of *Twenty Years purchase*, the Return of which is an *Unknown* addition to the *King's Treasure*; but as they pay so dear for their *Tormentors* places, there is no doubt but they have as *Indirect* ways of *Repairing* themselves, and *advancing* their *Purchase Money* on the *Publick*.

But how little this doth Comport with the *Deity* the *Great*

*Levis*

*Lewis* pretends to, to descend to those *Mean* and *Contemptible Methods* of gratifying his Ambition? How very much must it lessen the grandeur of this mighty Figure, to consider, that the *Terror* of his *Arms*, the *Pomp* of his *Versaille*, his *Statues* and *Triumphal Arches*, should all be raised out of the *spoils* of his own People? This then, as I said at first, is another Cause of the *Poverty* of *France*, and will not fail to *Terminate* in the *Ruine* of its *Monarch*.

Another *Infalible* way to bring this *Kingdom* to *Ruine*, is the *Army* which for many Ages hath been a *standing Charge* to the Nation. In former times there were but an *Hundred* Gentlemen of his Guard, which soon grew to *Two Hundred*, they are now consisting of *Thousands*, at the King's pleasure; There were part of them

Scots, part French, and part Swiss; the Scots were distinguished by white Coats powdered with Silver plates, and the King's device thereon: The French wore the King's Colour, these were Horse; the Swiss wore Coats of party colour'd Cloath of their own Country fashion: The Guard de Corps is compounded of these several Nations, amongst whom the Scots have great Privileges, on account of some signal Service in a Battle, where they saved one of their Kings.

As the Grand Seignior hath his Tymariotts, to whom, after a Conquest, he divideth several portions of Lands, to be Enjoyed Tax-Free, on Consideration that they serve him Personally in his Wars. On the same account have the Kings of France granted to their Subjects many Fiefs or Tenures



*Tenures* of Land, which formerly before *Charlemain*, were only for *Life*, but are since made *Hereditary*. The *Nobles* hold of the *King* in *High Justice*, their *Vassals* of them in *Base Justice*: That is the *Seigneur* holds in *Inheritance*, the *Gentleman* that is under him, but for *Term of Life*. The *Nobles* are bound to follow and serve the *King*, and the others to attend their *Nobles*; and these are severally obliged to furnish *Horse*, *Man*, and *Arms*, proportionable to the value of their *Fiefs*: He whose *Fief* amounted to 60 *l. per annum Sterling*, was bound to find one *Horseman*, and so of the rest. These *Enfeoffments* properly constitute the *Arere-Ban* of *France*, and these this Monarch is now compelled to raise, besides the *Pay* of his *Army* to secure him

from the Just Invasion of his Neighbours.

This state of the *Arereban* hath been lost for a long time, some being forced to sell their *Feoff* ; and above one *Third* have been given to the Church, who as one saith *Receives* all, and parts with *None* ; so that the *Nobility* and *Gentry* make up a great part of the *Gens d' Arms* ; and yet such is the Necessity of our *Monarch*, that he is forced to make an *Arereban* of all that are able to bear *Arms*.

In the time of *Francis* the first, there were Eight *Legionaries* instituted, after the manner of the *Romans* ; one of *Normandy*, of *Bretaigne*, *Picardy*, *Burgundy*, *Champaigne*, *Dauphine*, *Lyoncis*, and *Languedoc*, each of these *Legions* contained six Thousand, and  
 amounted

amounted to a force not unlike your Militia in *England*; but within Eighteen years after they were Casted, these Legions were changed into Regiments, of *Normandy*, *Picardy*, &c. as at this day; but since it hath been the Mode to Trade in Arms, our Troops have been Multiplied without Standard or Measure, and instead of being Named after the French Provinces, they may be called the Regiment of *Luxemburgh*, the Regiment of *Trier*, of *Mentz*, of the *Palatinate*, of *Strasburgh*, and *Alsace*, and indeed of *Bon*, or any place where they have had footing; for in truth *France* hath, of late, taken such measures, that as it is related of *Cæsar*, that he burnt the Country in *Helvetia* because the Inhabitants should fight for some Country not Ruinated, or as the *Tartars* when

they have *drained* one *Region*,  
 remove their *Colonies* to another:  
 so the *Legions* of the *Potent Lo-*  
*uis*, having *Ravaged* their *Native*  
*Territories*, like the *Locusts* of  
*Egypt*, cover the *Neighbour Coun-*  
*tries*, and prey upon the *Fruits* of  
 their *Industry*.

This discourse brought us to a  
 place of *Baiting*, where we  
 thought fit to rest our selves at  
*Noon*, and after some repose,  
 pursued our Journey to *Paris*.



## CHAP. V.

Of the City of Paris, and what was  
observable there.

**A**BOUT Seven in the Evening,  
we arrived at the great  
Metropolis of this Kingdom, who,  
though she boasts to be as large  
as old Rome, hath neither the Pri-  
vileges, nor the Bravery of that  
Heroick People. But their Ostenta-  
tion in comparing themselves with  
that famous Republick, is much of  
a piece with the rest of their Reb-  
domontades; they come as short  
of that, as of their Mist Con-  
quests, which every later Post con-  
tradicts and baffles. Here it was  
we lost the Company of that Gen-  
tleman, who had given us the  
foregoing Accounts of their  
Church,

*Church, Gentry, Tax-Gatherers, and Army*; and it was our Misfortune never to see him but once after.

The first Night we Lodged at our Inn, where our Entertainment differed but little from what we met with at *Amiens*, only the Room had not so much the *Hautgust* of the *Dragoons*; but the *Kitchen*, the *Sauces*, the *Swoop*, and *Grilliers*, stunk so powerfully of *Onions* and *Garlick*, as if we had been in *Egypt*: For my share, I thought it resembled the *House of Bondage* in so many respects, that if some of the *Old Israelites* were to leave their *Sepulchres* for a time, and take a Turn or two here, they would dread their *Old Tyrants* and *Task-Masters*, and their Cry would be as in the Days of *Pharaoh*. The *Palace* of their *King* creat'd with *Priests* worse than  
Frogs:

*Frogs*: The *Hugonots*, like *Bond-slaves*, were to make *Brick* without *Straw*; and the *Dragoons*, like *Task-Masters*, insulted and cudgel'd them to their *Drudgery*: The *Tax-Gatherers*, and *Gabellers*, like *Locusts*, covered the *Earth*. Their *Temples* too were filled with *Idols*, like those of *Memphis*. *England* and *Holland* were the *Goshen* for the poor *Refugies* to retire to; and who knows but their *Pharaoh* and his *Host*, may one Day be overwhelmed in that *Red Sea of Blood*, which by their means hath overflown those parts of *Europe*? Such *Contemplations* took up my *Thoughts* the first *Night*, and the next *Day* we took our *Lodging* at a private *House*, where we continued during our abode in that *City*.

*Paris* is divided by the *River* into three parts, the middlemost of which

which is an *Island* ; That part to-  
 ward *St. Dennis* is called the *Burg*,  
 that towards *St. Germain's* , the  
*University*, and the midst, the *Ville*,  
 or *City*. The *Latines* called it *Lu-*  
*zetia*, à *Luto* ; the *Streets* being  
 very *Dirty* ; they are generally  
 but *narrow* ; The *Buildings* *high*,  
 and *uniform*, which makes a fine  
 show, but their *Lodgings* and *Fur-*  
*nitures* are much short of ours in  
*London*. Their *Shops* are dark, and  
 nothing so well lined as those in  
*England* ; there were not such  
*Heaps of Variety*, such *Rich Pro-*  
*fusions* of all sorts ; but their *Wares*  
 generally *course* of the kind, which  
 argues want of *Money*. You shall  
 see here the finer sort of *People*  
 flouting it in *Tawdry Gause*, or  
*Colbertine*, a parcel of *course* staring  
*Ribbons* ; but *Ten* of their *Holy-*  
*day Habits* shall not amount to  
 what a *Citizen's Wife* of *London*  
 wears



wears on her Head every Day.

You cannot send your Footman to call a Coach in every Street, but he must go a Mile, or more, to some wide place, such as Smithfield, where are appointed Stands for them, and it may be, find none in two or three places; then you must foot it last. It is usual here for those of the better sort, to hire a Coach, Horses and Furniture for a Day, or a Week; and you may hire a Livery for Coachman and Footman, which the Broker shall retake, when you think fit to dismiss your Equipage. This Train is to be let for Twenty Shillings a Day; and looks the most like a piece of French Greatness, when the Son of a Decay'd Noble or Gent. that hath rak'd up Two or Three Hundred Crowns, shall look as great in the Streets of Paris, as if he spent Two or Three Thousand

sand Pounds a Year: But upon  
 Consumption of the Fund, the Re-  
 tinue is discharged, and *Regar Monsieur*  
*sieur* returns to his decay'd Mansion,  
 his *Bonger* of a tatter'd Footboy, and  
 his *Shabberon* Retrait, till he can get  
 a place in the Kings Guards, or the  
 Army; and then comes to *Grim-*  
*mate*, and cock *Cordebeck* like the  
 Nephew of Marshal *Turcne*, or a  
*Warlet* turn'd Courtier.

There are several great Piles of  
 Building about the City, which  
 look Noble and Ornamental; as  
 the Gates of *St. Anthony*, *St. Mi-*  
*chael*, *St. Jaques*, and others; there  
 is too, an old Castelet, said to be  
 built by *Jul. the Apost.* which pre-  
 sents no more like the Tower of  
 London, than a Tooth-drawer to *A-*  
*lexander the Great.* The *Universi-*  
*ty* Founded by *Charlemaine*, where  
 you have a Confusion of Colleges,  
 and Grammar Schools, *Waiting-*  
 Boys,

Boys, and Mathematicians, Doctors and Pedagogues, all sorts of Literature, shuffled together, from the *Primmer* to the *Talmud*; from the *Whipping-School* to the *Convocation-House*. You see not here those *Regular Buildings*, and *Oeconomies* as in *Oxford* or *Cambridge*, no *Bodley's Libraries*, no *Skeldon's Theatres*: Not that *Pomp and Order*, nor that *Discipline and Uniformity*, nor that *Neatness and Convenience* as in the *Universities of England*, which for *Nebleness* and *Beauty of Foundation*, besides the foregoing *Excellencies*, justly claim the *precedence* of all other *Academies* of the *World*.

Their great *Church of Nostre Dame*, said to be the finest in all *France*, falls short of many of *Ours*, The *Minster at York*, the *Cathedrals of Canterbury, Winchester, Sarum, Wells, Westminster-Abby*,

*Abby*, far exceeds it in many re-  
 spects; divers of Ours being much  
*Antienter*, and more *Superb*. The  
*Town-house*, or *Guild-hall* was built  
 by *Francis the First*, and is justly  
 esteemed one of the *Glories of Pa-*  
*ris*, tho' the *Hall*, or *Great Room*  
 be nothing so *Noble* and *Magnifi-*  
*cent* as that in *London*; this was  
 Dedicated to the calling of their  
*Common-Council*, and Government  
 of the *City* in the year 1533. and  
 over the Gate is Inscrib'd S. P. E. P.  
 The *Senate* and *People* of *Paris*, in  
 imitation of the S. P. Q. R. in  
 old *Rome*, or our S. P. Q. L. at  
*London*; and put me in mind of  
 the *Gaol* at *Newgate*, where the  
 Emblem of *Liberty* is set over the  
*Arch*, and the poor wretches are in  
*Fetters* within: And, really, it is  
 not much unlike the *State* we  
 were reduced to in the *late Reign*,  
 when an S. P. Q. L. stood over  
 the



the *Gates* and *Conduits*, when in the mean time the *Franchises*, and *Charter* of the *City* were seized and invaded.

There is a fair *Hospital* built by *Antoine Prat*, *Chancelor* of *Paris* in the *Reign* of *Francis*, the *First*. And a *Palace* built by *Philip le Bel*, in the year 1283. and named *Palace de Paris*. This is now converted into *Courts* of *Judicature*, like our old *Palace* at *Westminster*, and here are a sort of *Exchange Shops*, like those in the *Hospital* in *Smithfield*, but they look more like *Pedlars* than those with us; besides, here are the *Seven Chambers* of *Parliament*, whereof that of the *Great Chamber* of *Paris*, and the *Chamber* of *Accounts*, are very finely *Adorned*. All the *Buildings* of the *City* are generally of *Stone*, except *Pont N. Dame*, or *Our Ladies Bridge*, which is of *Brick*.

*Brick, Uniform, and as their Cheap-  
 side*; but that a *Whore* hath lately  
 got the Upper hand of Our *Lady*:  
 for that to the perpetual Infamy of  
*Charles the Second*, he loaded his  
*Fide Portsmouth* with English  
 Treasure enough to build the best  
 street in *Paris*, which is called  
 by her Name.

Besides these, the great *Palace*  
 of the *Louvre* at the West is very  
*sumptuous* and *Monarch-like*, pre-  
 senting it self with a Majestick  
 Beauty, it was of a Quadrangular  
 form, very *Ancient*, and *Prison-  
 like*, but pulled down by *Francis*  
*the First*, who raised many fa-  
 mous Buildings, and finished by  
*Henry the Second* who hath cau-  
 sed an Inscription to remember it.  
 But that vast and mighty *Additi-  
 on* and *Gallery*, of more than a  
*quarter of a mile* in length, built  
 by the present *King*, is a work,  
 not

not unlike the *Babel Empire* he is building, too great to be perfected. However it may not be amiss to present the Reader with a passage of his *vain glory*, which he caused to be Inscribed thereon, and is so near of kin to some of his latter *Inscriptions* which I shall take occasion to mention ; that it doth not a little discover the *vanity* of his disposition. It is written upon the great Front.

*Non Orbis Gentem, non Urbem  
Gens habet ulla,*

*Urbs 've Domum, Dominum,  
vel Dominus ulla, Parens.*

Paraphrased thus,

*Louvre be proud ! Thou all the  
World dost brave,*

*For Louis is thy Lord, and  
France his fetter'd Slave.*

*No Town can Match this House,  
nor Newgate such a Kn—*

Not

Not unlike this was that famous *Rhodomontade* sent to a late King of England upon his Invasion into *Holland* some Years since, which with much more Modesty he might have retracted upon his being so soon repelled from his pretended Conquests, by the Ever-Victorious Prince of Orange, now the most Auspicious King of England, who no sooner appeared in the head of Fifteen Thousand men, but the Mighty *Lois*'s Army precipitated with such haste out of the *Netherlands*, that they had not time to leave the marks of their Conquest, I mean the Towns reduced to *Asbes*. But that piece of Ostentation was this,

*Una Dies Lotheros, Burgundos*  
*Hebdomas una,*  
*Una Domat Battavos Luna:*  
*Quid annus Aget?*

Said



Said to be thus Englished by the  
Witty E. of R.

*Lorrain he stole, by Fraud he  
got Burgundy,  
Holland he bought, in faith he'll  
pay for't one day.*

And how we are come amongst  
the *Triumphs* of this *Blustering  
Conqueror* that *won'd be*, it may  
not be amiss to insert the Copy of  
a Letter sent from Paris the Se-  
cond of April, 1686. upon the  
Erecting one of his Statues.

Paris, April 2. 1686. on T

**T**HE Ordinary Post had not  
time to make a Recital of the  
particulars of the Fire-works which  
the Provost of Merchants, and the  
Sheriffs of this City caused to be  
made before the Town-House, upon  
Occasion

Occasion of the Statue, which Monsieur the Duke of Feuillade hath caused to be Erected in the place of Victory.

The Declaration of this Fire, was of *Ionique Order*. The Frize was Adorned with *Trophies*, *Palms*, and *Laurels*, the Emblems of *Victory*, *Virtue*, and *Courage*. Above the board-work there was a kind of *Pedestal* adorned upon each *Front* with two *Attic Pilasters* that carried a *Flat bend*, in which were seen *Inscriptions* that best agreed to the *Glorious Successes* of the *Life* of his Majesty.

The first Line of *Inscription* contained these words, *Ludovico Magno, Victori perpetuo*: To *Lewis the Great*, always *Victorious*.

One of the *Fronts* represented the *Peace* which the *King* had granted to his *Enemies* at a time when

when he could have advanced his Conquests; and the *Inscription* upon this Occasion, and the *Signification* was this: *Quod ubique Victor, seipsum Pace concessa Vicit.* That being in all places Victorious, He Conquered Himself by granting Peace. The *Device* upon the same Subject was Two Suns Occasioning Clouds, who had underneath a Ship at Anchor, her Sails full; with this Motto, *Vincendo hæc Otia Fecit*: By dispelling them he gave this Tranquillity.

The *Inscription* and *Device* of the Second Front was agreeable to the Conversion of the Protestants under the name of *Hereticks*. The words of the *Inscription*, and *Signification* were these: *Quod Hæresin à Regibus septem frustra laceffi tam profligavit*: That he subdued a Heresy, in vain Attempted by Seven Princes.

Princes were Francis the First, Henry the Second, Francis the Second, Charles the Ninth, Henry the Third, Henry the Fourth, and Lewis the Thirteenth. The Device that answered this Inscription, was a Hydra, with these words, *Nec tantum Alcides potuit. Hercules himself could not do any thing so great.*

The Third Front represented the Victory which the King got, as won from the Algerines, and the Liberty which he procured the Christian Slaves taken under the Banner of France. The words of the Inscription were these, *Quod Damitis in Affrica Barbaris, suis in Libertatem Afferunt; That having Overcome the Barbarians in Affrica, he restored his own to Liberty.* The Device underneath was, a Petard put to the Gates of a Prison, with these words, *Ni pateant, Unless they Open.* The



The Fourth Front expressed the shooting of Bombs into the City of Genoa, and the submission of that Republick, with this Inscription, *Genuensibus Igne mulctatis, ad obsequium Coactis*; The Genoeses being punished with Fire; are Constrained to a Submission. And the Device upon this Subject was, Two Lyons tyed to a Cart, with these words, *Et jura Norunt*, They have known the Yoke.

This day was very Glorious for Monsieur Fenillade, as being without Example, that a particular Lord should undertake to make at his own charge so vast an Expence as this, which he hath done for the Statue, and for the Feast, which he hath made, since it was never known that there was such an Illustrious Solemnity upon the like Occasion. We cannot Express the Expence the Duke hath

been at; The Ribbons of Gold and Silver that were upon the *Harness* of his *Horse*, cost a *Thousand Crowns*, by which, a guess may be given of the rest.

It is not at all improbable, that if *Monsieur Fenillade* had foreseen the Necessity his Great Master should be reduced to, and that not only the *Church-Plate*, but his *Houshold-Plate* must go to wrack; That which was so weakly thrown away upon a piece of *Vain-glorious Ostentation*, might have served now to have endeavoured those Conquests that were then so proudly Boasted of. 'Tis hardly to be imagined, at how great Charge the Great *Louis* hath been to insinuate the Notion of *Victory* into the Heads of his poor deluded Subjects; there hath hardly a Year past without somewhat of this kind. It was about the Year

Seventy

Seventy two, he caused a *Triumphal Statue* to be erected, with an *Inscription*, importing, that

*Louis the Great, the always August and Victorious Emperor of the French, having Conquered the Germans, Beaten the Dutch, Subdued the Spaniard, and Overcome the English; Secure in His Own Fortune; Caused that Monument to be Set up to the Eternal Memory thereof.*

The *Roman Emperors* used to set up the *Marks of their Conquests* in the *Country, or City Conquered*, as the many *Remaining Monuments*, and *Inscriptions* of theirs in *Gaul, Spain, Britain, and Flanders*, witness, they had not their *Trophies* confined to the *Wall of their own City*: But the *Mighty Louis* hath a more *Modern way of Publishing*



his *Victories* in the Streets of his own *Paris*; as a certain late King set up his own Statue in the Court of his *Palace*, at his proper Charge, not having Obliged his Subjects to Honour his *Memory* with any such *Acknowledgments*. These are pretty *Artifices* to set the *Credulous* and *Admiring Vulgar* at Gaze, and to raise in them an Opinion of the great *Prowess* of their daring *Monarch*, who valiantly keeps himself *entrencht* within the Walls of his *Versailles*.

But before we go off from this discourse of *Inscriptions*, perhaps it may not be taken ill, if the Reader be presented with that which was written over the Gate of the Palace at *Bon*, before Cardinal *Furstemburgh*, in imitation of the *Vallour* of his Great Master, ran out of it, which here follows, rendered into *English*.

*Qui*



*Qui Transis viator sta, Lege, per-  
pende, nam Bona habitat Insi-  
nis*

*Cardinalis sine Titulo.*

*Archiepiscopus sine Pallo.*

*S. R. J. Elector sine placito.*

*Episcopus sine Territorio.*

*Prepositus sine Templo.*

*Decanus sine Capitulo.*

*Canonicus sine Choro.*

*Sacerdos sine Breviario.*

*Catholicus sine Rosario.*

*Peccator sine Confessario.*

*Princeps sine Subdito.*

*Comes sine Dominio.*

*Miles sine Gladio.*

*Maritus sine Matrimonio.*

*Beatus sine Caelorum gaudio.*

O Passenger that goest this way,

Stop, Read, and Consider, for

at Bon there lives a Great

Cardinal without a Title.

Arch-bishop without a Pall.  
 An Elector of the Empire without  
 a Writ.  
 A Bishop without a Diocess.  
 A Prelate without a Church.  
 A Dean without a Chapter.  
 A Canon without a Quire.  
 A Priest without a Mass-Book.  
 A Catholick without his Beads.  
 A Sinner without a Confessor.  
 A Prince without a Subject.  
 An Earl without an Earldom.  
 A Soldier without a Sword.  
 A Husband without Wedlock.  
 A Saint without a Heaven.

And may not such a sort of Re-  
 verse be written upon all the pre-  
 tended Triumphs of *Louis the*  
*Fourteenth*? Hath he not Arroga-  
 ted to himself a *Stile* without a  
*Title*, a *Conquest* without a *Battle*,  
 and a *Laurel* without a *Victory*?  
 How very *Naked* must *Louis le*  
*Grand*

*Grand* appear, and how *Contem-  
ptible*, when each of the *Confede-  
rate Princes* shall *Retake* his own  
*Feather*? How miserably will the  
*Sham-Conqueror* look, when he  
shall be *Unplumed* of his *Borrow-  
ed Titles*?

The *Seine* on which this *City* is  
built, brings abundance of small  
Vessels with *Country-Commodi-  
ties*, such as *Wood*, *Coal*, *Turff*,  
and the like, but cannot bring any  
*Boats of Burthen*, no *Ships*, as at  
the *Custom-house* of *London*, or the  
*Streets* of *Amsterdam*: And this  
is the *Reason* why in *Paris* there  
are no such stately *Houses* for  
*Merchants*, as may vye for *Splen-  
dor* with the *Palaces* of *Nobles*;   
no such *Burse* as the *Royal Ex-  
change* for the *Resort* of *Merchants*  
and *Factors* from all parts of the  
*World*. No such *Mercate* as at  
*Leaden-hall*, where more great  
F 5 Beefs,



*Beefs, Mutton, Veal, Fowls* of all  
 fort, *Fish* in great abundance, and  
 whatever else may furnish the  
*Table* of a Prince; I say, more of  
 those Excellent Noble Provisions,  
 are Sold in that one Mercate of  
*London* in one Day, than in *Paris*  
 in Two Months time; tho' there  
 be many such Mercats in *London*  
 every day: And it shall be allow-  
 ed, that the number of Inhabi-  
 tants be equal, or rather more in  
*Paris*: But when the different way  
 of Living comes to be considered,  
 How very penuriously they in  
*France* live, to what they do in  
*London*; what Consumption of  
 all that is *Opulent, Noble* and great  
 in the One, and how very little,  
 besides *Cabbage, Onions, Potatoes,*  
*Sallads,* and a little *Course Meat,*  
 makes a *Dinner* in the Other; you  
 will find the Ballance to incline to  
 my side. Where in *France* are the  
 Tables



Tables Loaded with such Variety of  
 Provisions, as in London? In Paris,  
 Swoop, Bacon, Pork & Potage, with  
 a *Brucasse* of Frogs, make half their  
 Dyet, and yet they make but one  
 Meat a day, and that is from Mor-  
 ning until Night, still they cram,  
 and cry *Mange, Mange, Monsieur,*  
 'till they are as *Mangy* as *Coots*  
 with their Nasty feeding, or some-  
 what else: They say the Jews are  
 to be known from any other Na-  
 tion by a Rank and fetid smell that  
 always haunts them; but this is  
 evident, a *Frenchman* may be smelt  
 by the belching of his Swoop, as ea-  
 sily as a Crow finds Carrion. One  
 Evening I came home to my Lodg-  
 ing and my Landlady was making  
 ready somewhat for Supper; she  
 no sooner saw me, but presently  
 she came and claspt both her Arms  
 about my Neck, with a *Franches*  
 as if she had been my Sister; she  
 blow gave

gave me a strong Buss, which with the *hugg* I mention'd, left such an Odour about my Face and Lining, that it could not be got off in two or three days. This must not be lookt upon as an Indecency, no, no, it is a *la mode de Paris*, and a *Civility* so very becoming, that it were down-right want of *bree-ding* to boggle at it.

One day I had the Curiosity to go to one of their Churches, and it was upon a very Solemn Occasion, no less than the *Observation* of the *Saints day* to which the *Founda-tion* was *Dedicated*; so that the *Shew* was very Extraordinary; there was a *Procession* made up of so many *Orders* and sorts of *Peo-ple*, as if the *Builders* of *Babel* had assembled themselves to Solemnize the *Festival*; The *Jabber* and *Gaggle* of the *Croud* made such a *Confused Noise* and *Clamour* as would

would deafen a *Miller*; some were upon their *Knees*, others running over them; some were knockt on the head because they paid not *Reverence* enough to the *Idols*; some prostrated themselves on the ground in profound *Devotion* to the *Holy Saint*, which was a piece of *Timber* painted, and drest up like a *Bartholomew-Baby*, or rather like a Young Spark at a *Masquerade*; some thumpt their *Breasts* and wrung their *Hands*, *Implo- ring* the *Saint's Intercession* for themselves, others for their *Hus- bands* and *Relations* in the *Wars*. The Women held up their *Infants* to receive his *Benediction*: Before him march'd several Troops of *Fryars* of all Orders, some with *Ropes* and *Beads*, some with *Cros- ses* of divers sorts, they Sang *Bal- lads* and *Catches*, in praise of the *Saint*, and between each Order were



were people carrying *Torches* and *Flambeaux*, which put me in mind of the *Athenian*, that went with a *Candle* at *Noon* to search for a *Wise Man*. In the *Rear* of them came two *Pantificals*, with *Perfuming Pots* in their hands, whose *Incense* cast a *Cloud* of *Aromatick* thro' the *Street*, and after them a pair of *Fryars* which sprinkled the *Holy-Water* amongst the *Croud*; then came a parcel of *Doctors* in their *Formalities*, and after them the *Saint* carried in a *Chair* under a *Canopy*, supported by many *People*; These were followed by more *Torches*, and another *Canopy*, under which was the *Host* carried by a *Prelate* in great pomp. I went with the *Croud* 'till we came to the *Church* of *St. Anthony*, who by that, I perceived was the *Saint* of the *day*. The *Church* was but an *Ordinary Building*.



Building, compared with ours in London, but it was fill'd with *illuminations*, as if 't had been a *Lottery Room* at a Fair: The *Saint* was set in the *Nitch*, which was his usual Residence, and a *High Mass*, was Celebrated: It happen'd I was got by one of their *Fryars*, with whom, indeed, the Room was near fill'd; I thought I saw a *Hog* cut in Stone near the place where the *Saint* stood, and enquired of the Father what the meaning of that might be? At which, turning to me, he replied, Sir, I perceive you are Ignorant of the great *Virtue* of St. *Anthony*, and therefore to encourage your *Devotion*, I will tell you what it means: This *Holy Man* in time of his *Mortality* kept a *Herd* of *Swine*; not that he was *Judicially* Condemn'd to it, like the *Prodigal* that eat Husks with them; but

but *Saint Tony* did it out of pure *Charity* to keep the *Devils* out of them, who have always had a great hankering after *Swines* Flesh; and the particular care he had of these *Creatures* was such, that to this day, if the people find their *Hoggs* to be sick, or out of order, if the *Measles*, the *Murrain*, or any thing else troubles them; if they bring but four *Souse* for a *Mass* to be said to *Saint Anthony*, the *Pigs* are presently well again, and that is the reason of the *Hog* you see there.

Father, said I, you have well Informed me; but methinks four *Souse* is Dog-cheap for a *Mass*, and I wonder the price was set so low? O! Sir, replied he, If you consider the many *Millions* of those *Creatures* with which this *Country* swarms, it will not appear to be small Sum, for sometimes, we  
have

have three or four hundred Masses of that kind to be said in a day, but then I must tell you, we make one Mass to serve for a hundred or six score of them, and that is pretty reasonable. But Father, said I, is Saint Anthony never sought to but for Pigs? Yes Sir, replied he, for many things, and this day, by order of Our General, we are to Implore his favour for the Dolphin, in his Expedition into Germany. What then, said I, doth the same Saint serve for Pigs and Princes? Wie, Wie, quoth the Father, for any thing at times, tho' his particular Province is the Swine.

There were abundance of other Saints, both Male and Female, about the Church, but they were so drest up, so dignified, and distinguished, that if their own Parents were there, they could not know



know them: There was Saint  
*Winnifryd* in a *Commode*, with a  
 Lac'd Scarffon, and a *Wisor* in her  
 hand, as if she were going to *Con-*  
*fession*; Saint *Denis*, with a Lac'd  
*Hat* button'd up on one side, an  
*Embroidered Coat*, and a Gold and  
 Silver fring'd *Sash*, like a Captain  
 of the *Guards*; you could not  
 have Imagined that he had ever  
 been *Groom* of the *Stables* to Saint  
*George*, no more than King *Pepin*  
 or *John* of *Ghent*. Tir'd with  
 this Tort of *Devotion*, I went  
 home to my *Lodging*, and spent  
 but three or four days more in  
*Paris*, and then took our Journey  
 to *Versailles*.

There were abundance of other  
 Saints, both *Males* and *Females*, as  
 about the *Church*, but they were  
 too far up to be seen, and the  
 people, that in their own  
 devotion, they could not  
 know



## C H A P. VI.

*Of the Court at Versailles.*

**A**S heretofore the *Escorial* of  
*Spain* was thought to be  
 one of the Noblest Palaces in *Euro*  
*pe*, so now the Castle or Palace  
 of *Versailles* is that which is the  
 most talk'd of, and may well be  
 reckoned to Exceed all others, for  
 its *Situation*, *Uniformity*, and *Uniformity*  
 of *Building*. The access to it is  
 over a spacious Plain, that yields  
 a prospect of a very *Magnificent*  
*Front* every way. It would fill  
 a large Volume to describe the  
 Exquisite Curiosity of the *Gardens*  
 and *Water-works*, with which it is  
 surrounded for the Compass of  
 some Miles. The *Fountains* and  
 Conveyances for Water are al-  
 most

most Innumerable, you have a  
 Walk of a very great length, un-  
 der an *Arch* of Water ; so contri-  
 ved that the *Pipes* playing over  
 you from each side, in their *Ca-*  
*dence* compose a *Regular* piece of  
*Arch-work* ; there are *Channels* of  
 each side that receive the Water,  
 on the brink of which stand *Cu-*  
*pids* and *Satyrs*, with other diver-  
 sive figures, pissing into the *Stream*.  
 The *Basins*, *Anticks*, and *Dervises*  
 of several sorts that are spouting  
 with *Water* in every *Quarter*, are  
 not to be reckoned ; in some you  
 have the *Water* rising up in many  
 small *Lines*, and then falling off  
 in *beade* forms like the figure of a  
*Palm-Tree* ; in others a *Hercules*  
 with his *Club* seeming to Maul a  
*Hydra*, out of whose *Head* spout  
 so many streams of *Water* like  
*Bloud* : The wits of *Artists* and  
*Carvers* have been employed to de-  
 vise

vise all Imaginable kinds of *Figures* and *Postures* for disporting with the *Fluid Element*. There are vast Numbers of *Ponds* for all sorts of *Fish* and strange *Water-Fowl*, many *Canals* in some of which are *Indian Canoes* and *Boats* of Curious Contrivance; in some of them you may see a *Ship* under Sail in all it's pomp and splendor, with the *Train* and *Bravery* of a *Man of War*; there are several of these, that sometimes make a diversion in Imitation of a *Sea-Fight*. I have heard a Nobleman affirm, that some of the *Water-works* at *Versailles* cannot be play'd under the charge of two Hundred pounds a time.

To recount to you the *Walks* of *Orange-Trees*, *Mirtles*, the *Grotto's* and infinite *Curiosities* of these *Gardens*, would be too much for the little room I have left; there  
is



is nothing wanting that may recommend them to exceed all of the kind in the Universe. The Expence the King hath been at, to make his Garden like a Paradise, hath brought France to a Desert, and to support the Pomp of his Extravagance, and Luxury, hath Louis le Grand reduced his Country to the Stile of *Petit France*. The Soldiers of the Foot-guards, which may consist of Two or Three thousand each Parade, lye basking on the Ground in the Ar-  
 es, round the Palace, like so many Dogs in the Sun around a Kennel, they had not the Umbrage of Sheds or Tents to shelter them from the weather, but were exposed to all the Inconveniencies of Wet, Dust and Heat, and seemed to be very Louzy, and almost Starved; which, I apprehend, did not Comport, or bear any agreeable



ble Figure suitable to the *Grandeur* of the *Monarch* on whom they attended. There were some *Calashes*, and *Coaches* of the *Kings* *Servants* in waiting, but not a *Chair*, *Chariot*, or *Coach* of any *Foreign Minister*, nor above Two of the *Nobles* of that *Country*: the reason whereof easily occur'd, for that the *Emperor* of *Germany*, and all the *Kings*, *Princes* and *States* of the *Confederacy*, had recalled their *Ambassadors* and *Residents* from thence: And the *Nobles* of his own *Country*, except some few *Courtiers*, were compelled to serve in the *War*, or so *Reduced*, as hath been hinted, that they could not make an *Equipage* to appear at *Court*.

The *Building* is very *splendid*, and makes a *Glorious Figure* on the *Outside*, because of the great *Uniformity* of the *Windows*, *Cornishes*,  
and

and Roofings; the extraordinary Guildings make it shine like the Feigned Palace of the Sun; and some Parasites have not stuck to stile it, the Golden Palace of Versailles. But a very Uncourtly passage it was of one that had discharged his Posteriors against a White Wall there; and observing the Oaker to have spatter'd somewhat in the resemblance of Beams, or Rays, took the boldness to write under it, *Nec pluribus Impar*; which being the Motto the Great Louis gives with his Device, being the Sun displayed in his Glory, could not but be resented as a great Indignity to the Monarch. But why the French King should assume to himself the Resemblance of that Glorious Planet, cannot but be surprizing to those that consider their very contrary Qualittes, since the one is the Cherisher, and Revi-

ver

*viver* of the *Creation*, the other the *Burner* and destroyer of the *Universe*, and bears a nearer likeness to *Phaeton*, than *Phæbus*.

Notwithstanding all this, the more *Considerate* and *Skilful* in the business of *Architect*, conclude there is a great *Indecency* in raising so many Rooms over one another as are seen in this wonderful *Castle*, which are observed to be six *Stories* high in many places of it, and looks more like a *Town-house* than the *Palace* of an *Emperour*; within are many *Apartments*, *Galleries*, and *Rooms of State*, but they are so much like one the other, that it is difficult for one that is not much there, to distinguish one Room from another, & seems as if one were still in the same place; whereas a *Variety* in the *Figure* and *Furniture* within doors, renders a house no less pleasant than the *Charming* *diver-*  
G
sity

*Sight* of the *Objects* which so much delight the *Eye* without,

There were two or three sorts of *Yeomen* of his *Guards* in different *Habits*, which took up as many Rooms; some of them lookt as *Fell* as the *Dragon* which kept the *Hesperian Garden*; others could not hide their *Natural French* *Meine*, but were all *Mimmick* and *Posture*, like so many *Scaramouche's* or *Harlequins*. This sort of *Aspect* continued in the *Inner Rooms*, in some of which were *Officers* of the *Guards*, and some that belonged to the *Army*, so loud and clamorous in discourse, so full of *Motion* and *Grimace*, as if they had been on the *Walks* at the *Town-house* in *Paris*, where it's usual to observe their better sort of *Merchants* cocking their *Hats*, looking full of *business* and *hurry*, walking so fast as if they were in quest of a *Midwife*, or some *Thieves* that had  
pil-



pillaged the House: in this sort of posture the People in every Room presented at *Versailles*; sometimes the *hands* were a little *Extended*, and the *Eyes* fixed with such *intention* on the ground, as if they were going to do the *Sommerfet* forward; another *brushing* up his *Whiskers*, and looking as fierce as *Amadis de Gall*, some pointing to the *Cieling*, others to the *Floor*, with so many *Shruggs* and *Apish* Gestures as *Pug* shall make you in a *Musick-house*: Even the great *Confidants*, Monsieur *Colbert*, and Monsieur *Louis*, when they deigned to speak to any one as they past by, did it with so much *Action* and *Finger-talk*, as if they were *Conversing* with the *Deaf*, and were to make them understand by *Signs*, or as if there were such a defect in their *Language*, that notwithstanding the *Multitude* of words they use, they were

forced to Intimate much of their meaning by *Shruggs*, *Nodds*, and *digito-monstrations*.

We were admitted to see the *Bed-Chamber*, the *Furniture* of which was doubtless of a *prodigious Value*, but there were so many *China Cups*, *Pots* and *Basons*, which we were told were presented by the *King of Siam*, when he sent his Sons the *Princes* of that Country to *School* to the *French Court* to Learn *Religion* and *Morals*; that I could not but fancy the *King's Lodging* lookt like an *Apothecaries Shop*, with so many *Gally-Pots* about it; and doubtless some of them might be lined with the *Fundamental Oynment de Conser-vando Ano*.

We were called away from looking any further into that *Apartment*, that we might see the *King's Dinner* served in; I could not discern above three *dishes* of  
Meat

Meat, whereof one was *Venison*, the other *Fowl*, the rest were about a dozen *Plates* of *Swoops*, *Ragusts*, and *Quelque Choses*: He was surrounded with a great many *Officers*, and a *Guard* of *Partizans*, had the most *Cozening Face*, as was said of *James* the first, of any *Mortal*; who could imagine that a *Soul* so *Barbarous*, *False*, and *Cruel*, could *Inhabit* in a *Body* grac'd with a *Meine* and *Presence* so *Lovely* and full of *Attraction*; is *Person* and *Gesture* seem'd very *Obliging*, nor wanted any thing that might speak him *Majestick*, and *Pleasant*, but when the *Inhumane Butcheries*, *devastations*, and *Cruelties* of his *Actions* were reflected on, and that a *Temper* so *Diabolical* should *Inhabit* a form so *Angellickal*, what could be *Imagined*, but that he must be of that *Infernal Race* that can turn themselves into *Angells* of *Light*?

I was astonished at the slender-  
 ness of this great *Monarch's Table*,  
 and thought it held no proportion  
 with the *Ancient Magnificence* of  
 the Court of *England*, when there  
 were not only five *substantial*  
*Courses* at the *King's Table*, but  
 the *Kitchings*, *Cellars*, and *Tables*  
 were all day free to Entertain the  
 Kings honest *Leiges* and *Subjects*,  
 whose *Industry* and *Loyalty*, fur-  
 nished the *Royal Table* with those  
*Bounties*: It was when the Palace  
 gave an *Example* of *Hospitality* to  
 the *Nobles* and *Gentlemen* of the  
*Cuntry*, that the Land abounded  
 with *Acts* of *Mutual Kindness*  
 and *Charity*, the *King's* house was  
 open to his *Subjects*, the *Landlords*  
 to his *Tenants*, the *Countrymans* to  
 his *Neighbor*, and all of them to  
 the *Poor*: But those happy days  
 were before we were fond of  
*French* Education and *Servants*,  
 before we had learned to put out  
*Servants*



*Servants and Horses to Livery*; before *Debauchery* had thrust good *Hospitality* out of Doors: But my astonishment at the *King's* *Parcimonious* way of Living ceased, when I considered that He had *Embarraſt* himself in a *War* with his *Neighbours*, that might not only compel him to *retrench* his *House-keeping*, but to *ſhut up* *Hoſe*.

It was impossible, notwithstanding the *Monſieur* had *habituated* himself to ſuch a *Careſſing* ſort of *Aſpect*, but ſome *inward uneaſineſs* would *ſhew* it ſelf at his *Eyes*, ſometimes; and, if well obſerved, he might well be diſcerned to *Flash* with a ſuddain *Surprize*, as if all were not well within, and that there was a *pain* which all the *Diverſion* and *Gayety* of his Rich *Seraglio* could not cure. I underſtood ſome news from *Ireland* did not *pleaſe* him, and was

the more confirmed in it, for that, as soon as he had Dined, he was observed to betake himself to the Apartment of *Madam de Maintenon*; it having been *Customary* for him, when any thing *cross* his purposes, to *Ease* his *Cares* on the Breasts of his *Fair Ones*.

It was very *early* this Great Prince shewed his *Inclinations* to that Sex; that soon after his *Marriage* with the *Spanish Infanta* (whom he used but *furlily*) both the Queen and Q. Mother perceived *Madam de la Valliere* had, as they thought, a larger *share* in his *Kindness*, than was to be permitted: They omitted no *Intrigue* imaginable to break off the King from his *Conversation* with her, and finding all to fail, they at last prevailed with *Father Anat*, his then *Confessor*, to use his *Art* for bringing the *King* off from that *Lady*: The *Father*, with too much freedom

dom for his *Own Interest*, told the *King*, That way of Life would inevitably produce very bad Effects, and seemed to threaten him with some *Severe Pennance*, in case he did not *Reforme*. This sort of proceeding, as it was quite Counter to the *Practice*, and *Politics* of his *Order*, happened to be very *Unfortunate* for the *Father*; for the *King* Answered him with great *Indifferente*; That he thanked him for his good *Advice*, but that hence-formard he would make use of no other *Confession*, but the *Parson of the Parish*. But whatever misfortune befell *Father Anat* for his *unseasonable Reproof*; the succeeding *Confessors* of that *Order* know how to make their *Court* better; or else they could never have deserved those extraordinary Testimonies of the *King's Bounty*, as are daily heaped upon them: They are not only his

*Confessors*, but his most *Cabinet* and inward *Councillors*: It is they have engaged his *Arms*, First, to the *Extirpation* and *Destruction* of the best part of his *Subjects*, and now, against all the other *Princes* in *Europe*; they have flatter'd him with their *Parasitical Panegyrics*, and *Encomiums*, into a false *Notion* of himself, and his *Affairs*, that he is become weak enough to permit *Inscriptions* bordering very near upon *Blasphemy*, not only to Ape the Humor of the *Heathen Emperors* in their *Medals* and *Statues*, but to have his *Own Name* Incerted in the room of *Our Saviours*. Upon his *Palace* they have set this *Distick*.

*Regia, Rex, Regnum, Tria sunt miracula Mundi,*

*Rex Animo, Regnum viribus, Arte Domus.*

Para-



Paraphrased.

*King, Kingdom, Palace, are Three  
Wonders found.*

*He's Mad, They Naked, This on  
Rotten Ground.*

Upon the Gate of one of their  
Colleges in *Paris*, they have struck  
out the Name of *Jesus*, which by  
the *Rule* of their *Order*, is to be set  
upon all their Buildings, and have  
put the *King's* Name in its stead ;  
upon which, one very wittily  
writes this,

*Abstulit hinc Jesum posuitque In-  
signia Regis,  
Impia Gens, Alium non habet illa  
Deum.*

Rendered,

They *Jesus* Name have t'ane from  
their Abode,  
And plac'd the *King's*, He only  
is their God.

After

After some time *Madam de Montespan* supplanted *Madam de Valiere*, who thereupon retired to a *Cloister*, and gave her Self to *Devotion*, as is expressed in the following Rhimes.

*Deux grands Roys pour m'avoir se  
sont fait une guerre,  
Donc l'un est Roy du Ciel, & l'autre  
de la Terre,  
Le Roy de Ciel vainqueur me con-  
duit en ce lieu,  
Quel bon heur est plus grand sur  
la Terre & sur l'onde  
Que de me voir aujourd, hai l'E-  
pouze d'un grand Dieu?  
D'Amante que j'etois du plus grand  
Roy du Monde.*

Englished,

For me the King of Heaven and  
and Earth have strove,  
Which of the Mighty Two should  
gain my Love :

But

But Conquering Heaven has  
 brought me to this Place.  
 What Earthly Happiness can mine  
 surpass?  
 Since from the greatest Princes  
 Mistress, I  
 Am now become Spouse to the  
 Deity.

But whatever Advantages *la Valliere* made of her Exaltation in the time of her *Regency*, or whatever she Omitted, *Madam Montespan* got her *Relations* into places of greatest Honour and Profit, which their own *Merit* would never have raised them to; Her Brother being made *Duke*, *Peer*, and *Marshall* of *France*, upon which a Nobleman speaking of the difference between *Marshall Feuillade*, and *Marshall Vivonne*, said the first was made *Marshall* by the *Sword*; the other, which was *Vivone*, *Montespan's* Brother, by the *Scabbard*.

*bard.* It hath not only been the good Fortune of the *Whores* of the *Royal Family* in *France* to promote their *Brothers* and *Relations* ; but some on this side the *Water* have been raised by *Placquet-interest* to such a Pitch as neither their *Virtue* nor *Valour* could ever have advanced them. But this sort of Honour as it is seldom kept from *Tarnish* and *Rust*, rarely *outlives* its own *Infamy*.

There was besides another *Miss* who stole from her *Spiritual Spouse* to participate of the *Embraces* of the King, her name was *Madam du Lude* of the Country of *Lorraine*, and upon these three who Included the *Vulgar*, the *Noble*, and the *Religious*, was this Epigram written,

*La Valliere e'toit du Commun,  
La Montespan de la Nobless,  
Et La du Lude Chanoinesse,  
Fontes Trois ne sont que pour un,*

*Mais*



*Mais sçavez vous & que veut faire  
Le plus puissant de Potentate ?  
Lachoses parvit assez claire,  
Il veut unir les Trois Estats.*

Englified,

*La Valliere of Common Race,  
Montespan of Noble was,  
And du Lude a Pious Nun,  
All for Mistresses were known ;  
If you'd know the Reason why  
These Three his Fav'rites he Creates?  
Our great Prince has a mind to try  
To Unite the Three Estates.*

Not only were the Kindred of his Courtezans raised to Honours, but those that procured Miss-Royal were in the Road to preferment, and upon this Occasion the Prince de Marsillac was made Grand Veneur, that is Chief Hunter, which Office could not but be agreeable to him that found the King's Game.

As

As for what else we could Observe in this once *glorious Country*, nothing occur'd but what hath before been hinted under the other heads at first laid down; so that upon the whole all this Concurr'd to make the *Nation Unfortunate*; and how is it possible any other *Consequence* can be expected from such *Causes*, where the *King* is a *Tyrant*, the *Priests* *Covetous* and *Ignorant*, the *Gentry* and *Nobles* *Poor* and *Debauch'd*, the *People* *bigotted to Superstition* and *Slavery*: So that as *Holland* is a *Bogg Fertilited* and *Enriched*, *France* is a *Garden destroyed* and laid *Common*; *Holland* is a *Community of Freemen*; *France* a *Herd of Slaves* and *Beggars*: And the *Mighty Louis* hath been all this while *Unriling his own House* to break his *Neighbours Windows*.

F I N I S.